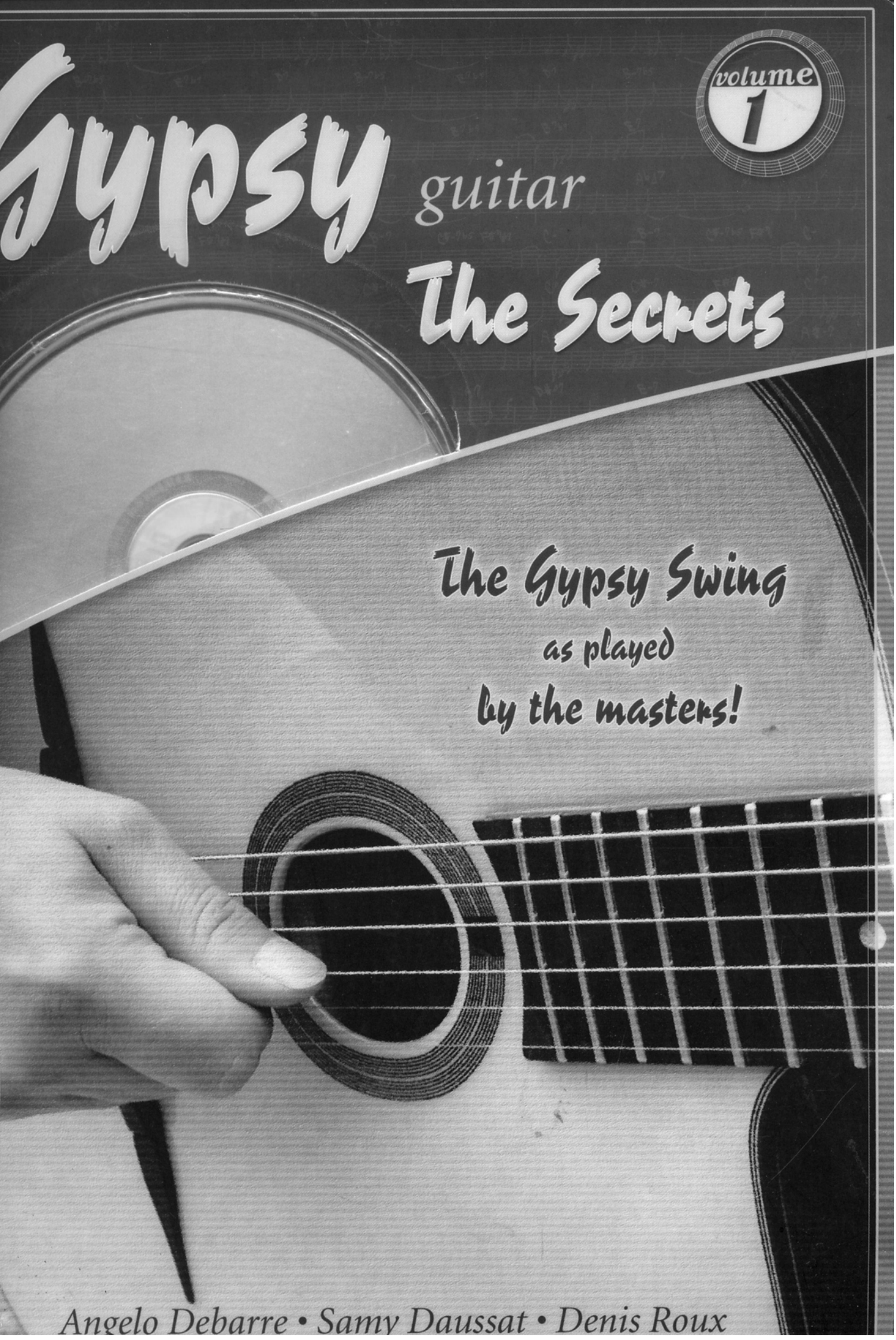
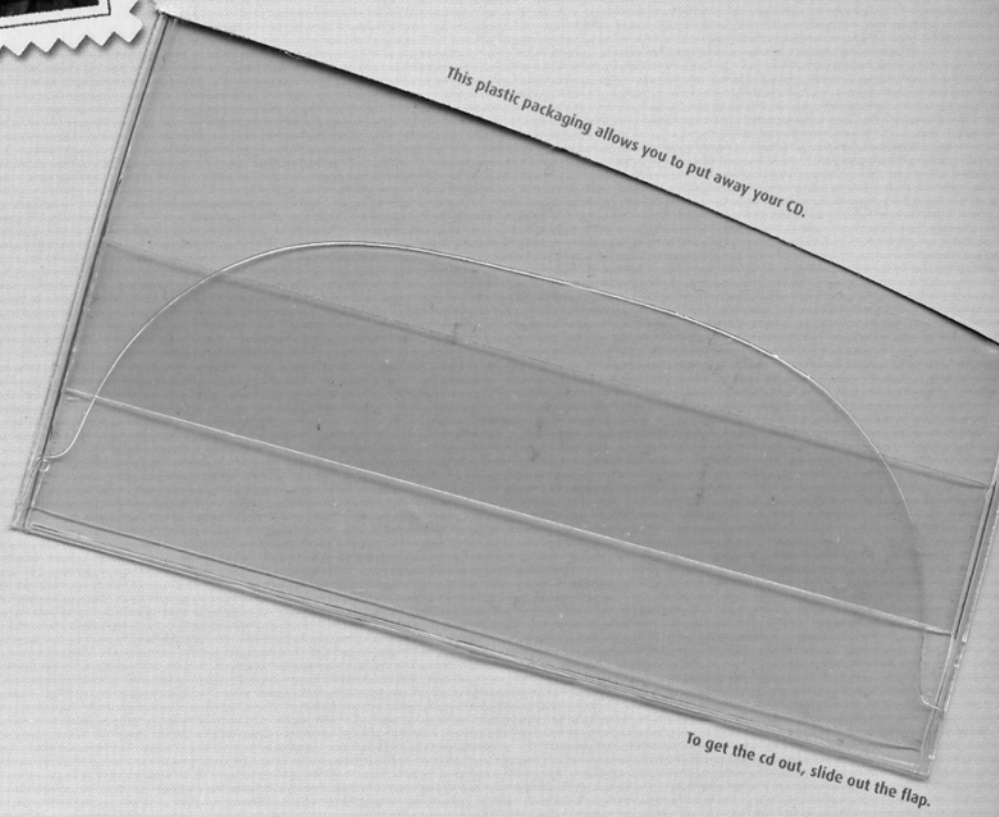
Gypsy guitar The Secrets

volume 1



The Gypsy Swing as played by the masters!

Angelo Debarre • Samy Daussat • Denis Roux



It was a labour of Love for us to put this book together. We hope it will help you to better understand and enjoy this style of music.

Grab those Guitars and have fun!

GYPSY GUITAR : THE SECRETS

Written by

Denis ROUX
&
Samy DAUSSAT

With the participation of **Angélo DEBARRE**

Recorded and mixed by **Charly Ménassé** at studio V.D.F.

Drawings : **Kati BEAL**

Music notation : **Dodecaphon**

Cover : **Graines d'Octets**

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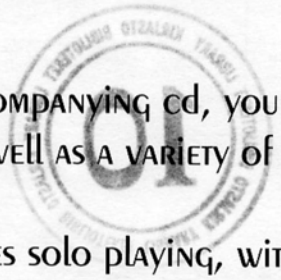
ÉDITIONS "COUP DE POUCE"
BP 21
95410 GROSLAY (FRANCE)
tel: 01.39.84.09.93 - fax: 01.39.84.09.19

PREFACE

Tackling a new playing style can be difficult if you don't have a grip of the particular techniques it uses.

As an introduction to the gypsy guitar we have gathered together a series of tips, tricks and techniques as used by the masters.

This course is split into three parts. We suggest you work through one before moving on to the next.



Guided by the accompanying cd, you will study in detail the famous gypsy pumping *(see chapter accompaniment)*, as well as a variety of other rhythms used in the gypsy swing.

Part two introduces solo playing, with a number of licks in the style of django reinhardt.

The course ends with 6 pieces of music played by angelo debarre and accompanied by samy daussat.

To help you practise your soloing, the play-along tracks can be found at the end of the cd.

grab those guitars and have fun !

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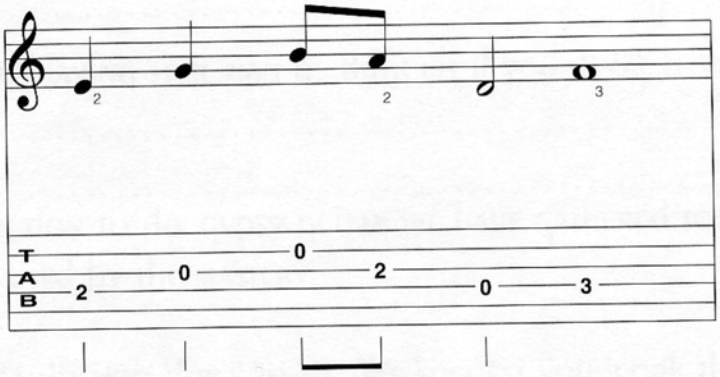
NOTATION

Here are the different symbols you will find in this book.

Guitar tab

Guitar tab is system of 6 horizontal lines representing the 6 strings of the guitar. The number on the line indictes at which fret to hold down. The number 0 indicates a string Which is played not held down.

Hammer = 3 ⌒ 5 note struck from fret 3 to fret 5 **Pulling** = 5 ⌒ 3 **note pulls from fret 5 to fret 3**

Slide = 3 → 5 note slides from fret 3 to fret 5

Bend = 5 ↗ (7) play the first note fret 5 and push upwards until you hear the note at fret 7

Reverse Bend = (7) 5 ↘ 5 play the first note already up above and draw down the finger until you hear the next note

Λ = Downstroke ⊔ = Upstroke

= This sign shows the rhythm Music to be playend with a swing feel = ♩♩ = ♫

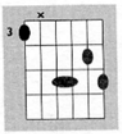
X = this sign indicated that the sound is muffled, by releasing the pressure of the left hand (dead note)

= Upper mordent of a tone (c d c) = Upper mordent of 1/2 a tone (b c b)

= Pluck the strings from up to down

Fingering = 1,2,3,4 the small numbers above and below the notes indicate the fingering for the left hand.

● = bass notes played with the thumb of the left hand. **A7** / G 7th chord with a g bass



= this diagram represents the frets of the guitar. The x above indicates that the string is not played. The small number indicates the position on the fingerboard.

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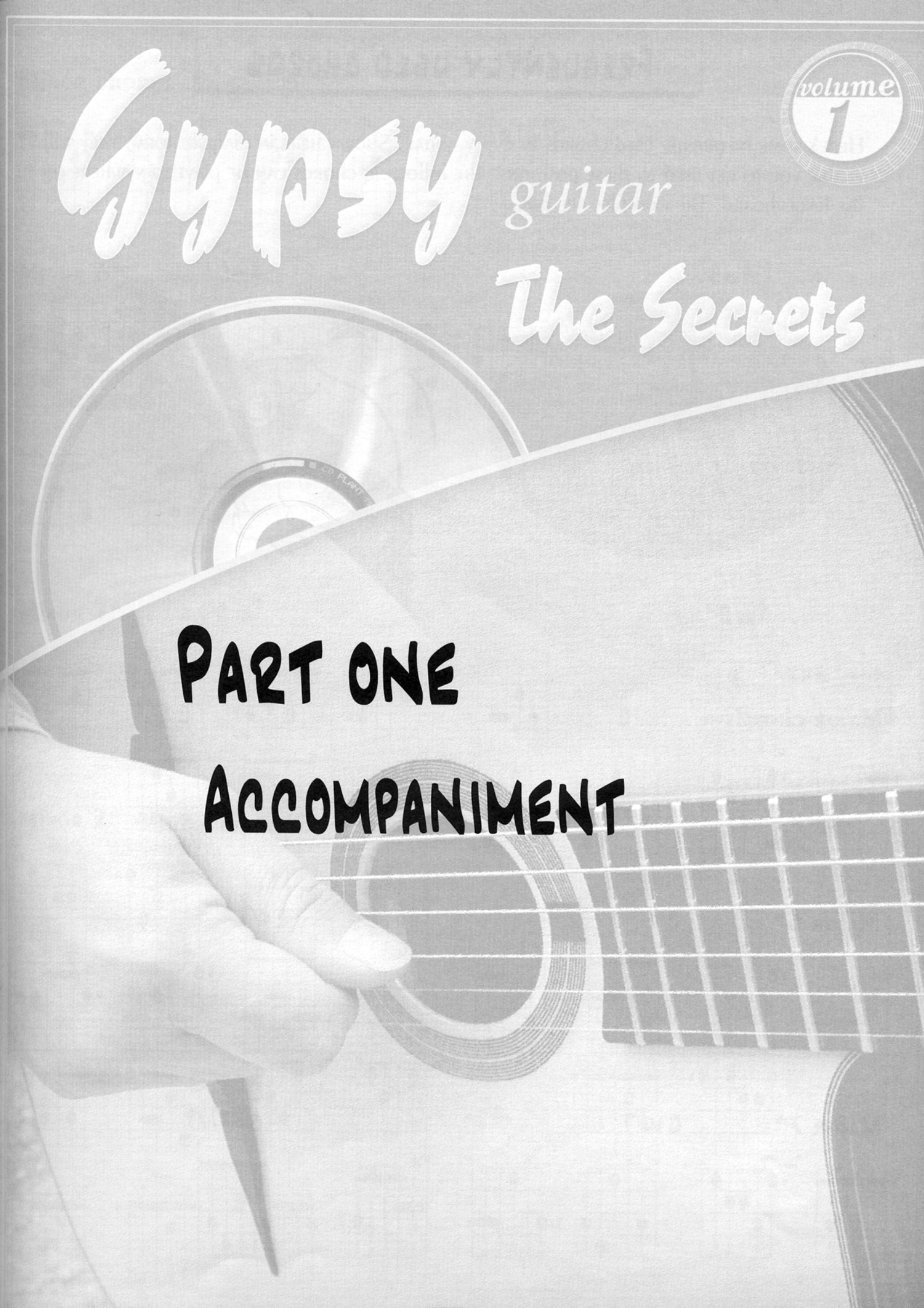
All right

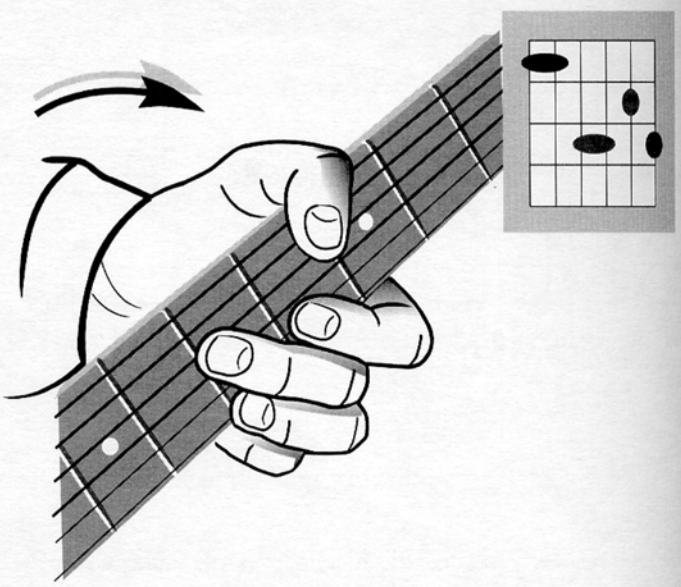

Gypsy guitar
volume 1
The Secrets
PART ONE
ACCOMPANIMENT

Frequently used chords

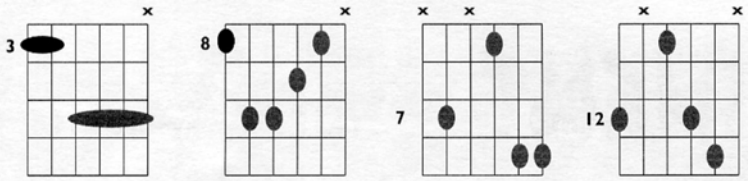
Here's some frequently used chords in gypsy guitar. Shown here in diagram form, they will enable you to get used to these positions. The following chords can be played anywhere on the fingerboard. The examples are in C.

In gypsy guitar, it is usual to use the thumb for the basses. This difficult technique is marked on the diagrams by the sign = ●

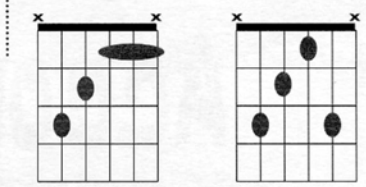
It is, however, possible to play the chords in the "standard" position.



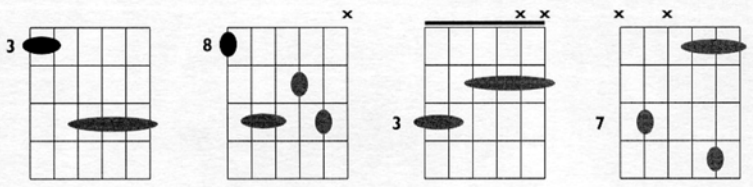
Major chords C



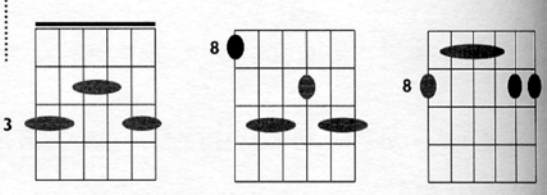
C+ C+/9



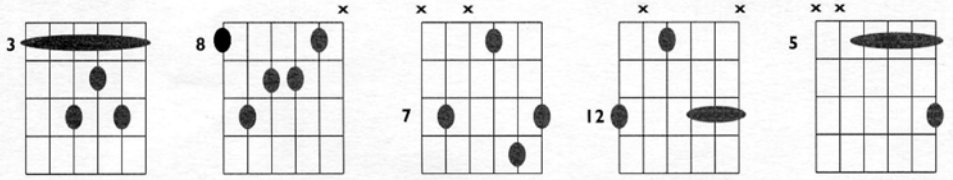
Major 6th C6



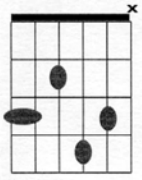
C6/9



Major 7th CMA7



CMA7/9



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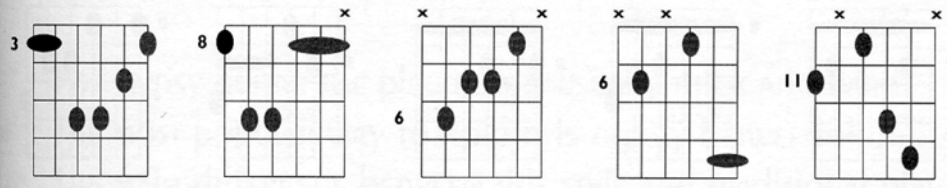
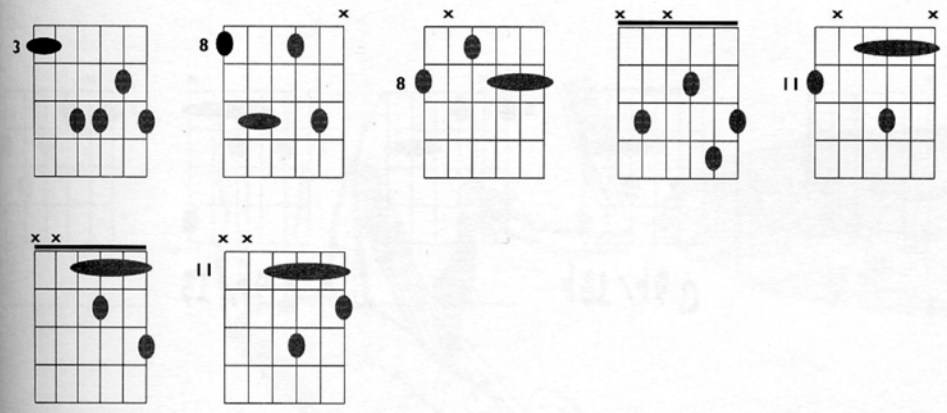
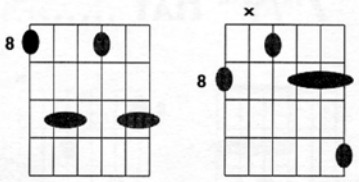
Minor chords ..... Cm



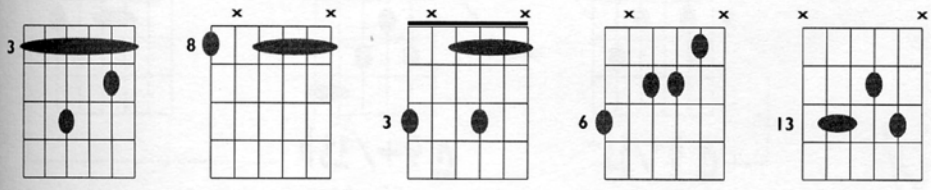
Minor 6th Cm6



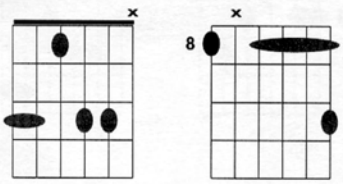
Cm6/9



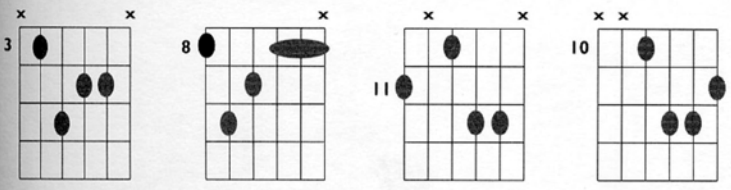
Minor 7th ..... C m7



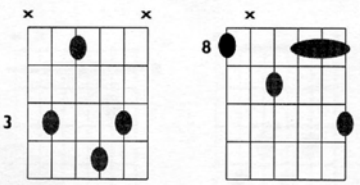
C m9



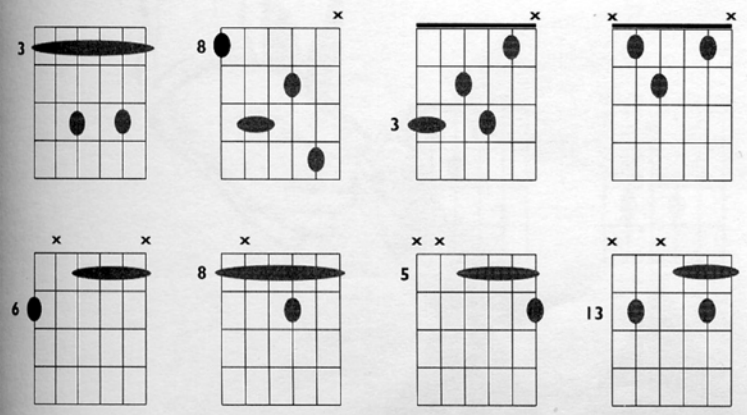
Minor 7th major ..... C m (M7)



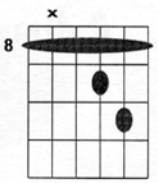
C m9 (M7)



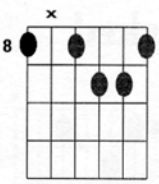
7th ..... C 7



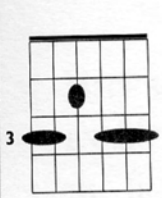
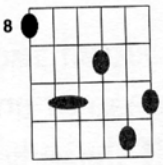
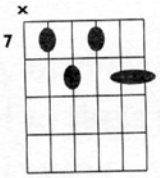
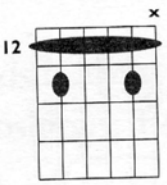
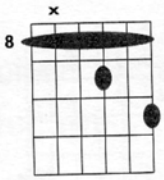
C 7/13



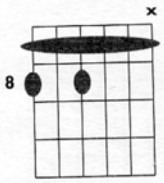
C 7/13b



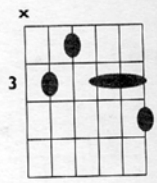
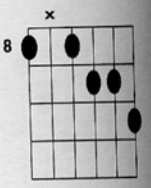
7th/9th ..... C 9

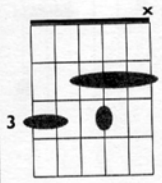
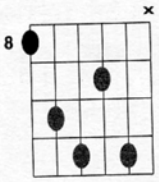
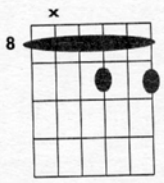
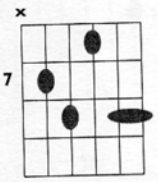
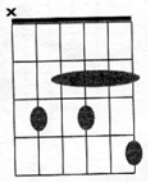
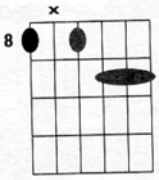
C 9/11+



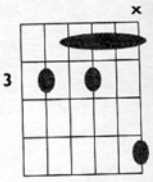
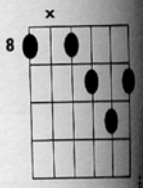
C 9/13b

7th/9th Flat .....C 9b

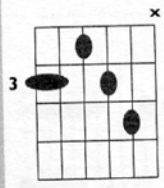
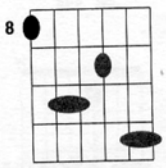
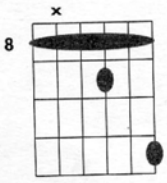
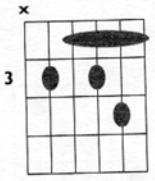







C 9b/13b

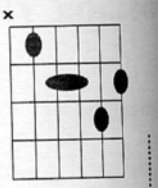
C 9b/13

7th/9th augmented ..... C 9+

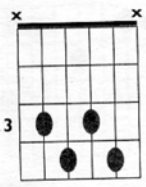
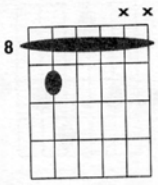





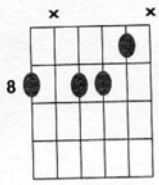
C 9+/11+

C 9+/13b

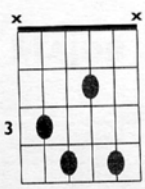
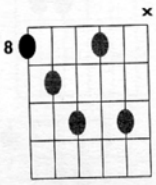
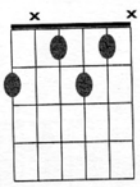


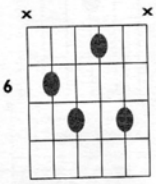
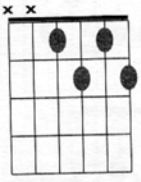
Minor 7th 5th Flat Cm7/5b



5th diminished ..... C dim

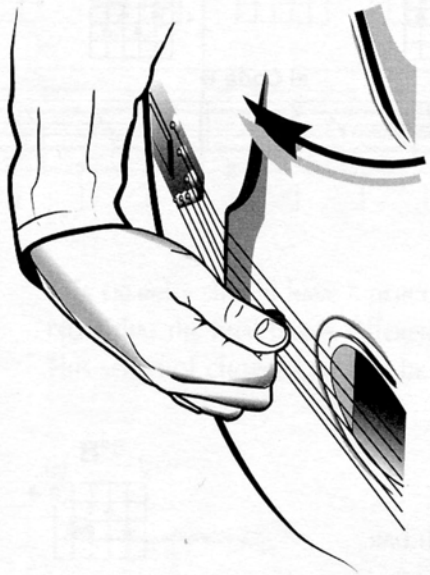
Same positions at frets 5 / 8 / 11

Same positions at frets 9 / 12

Same positions at frets 4 / 7 / 10

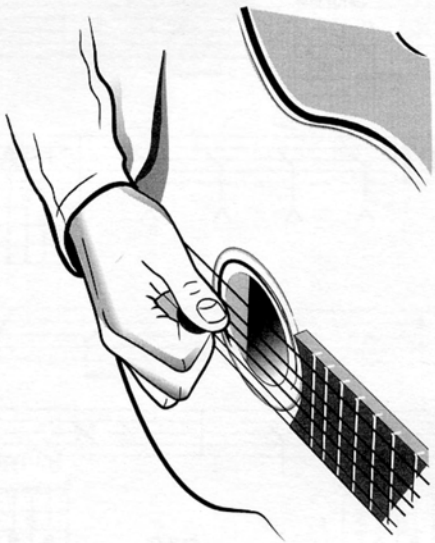
Holding the pick

For gypsy guitar the plectrum is usually thick and hard.
The most popular way to hold it is tightly between thumb and index finger.
The main difference between this style and traditional playing is that the forearm does not rest on the body of the guitar. This allows for a more powerful playing style. This same technique is used for both rhythmic and solo playing.



The technical particularity of this style is to not rest the forearm on the body of the guitar.

In jazz playing the forearm rests on the body of the guitar.



while playing solo it is also usual to damp the strings.
(see explanation on page 23)

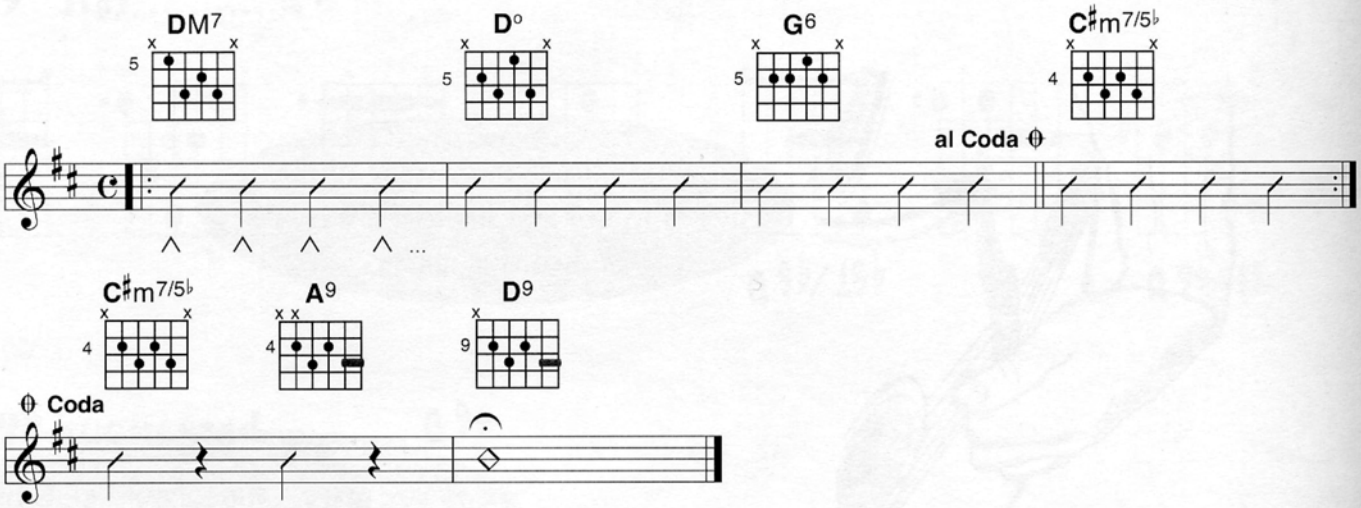
Accompaniment

Gypsy pumping

Rhythmic accompaniment is an essential part of this style.
The traditional gypsy method of learning to play always starts with the rhythm.
Pumping means playing 4 beats in the bar.
The role of the person playing accompaniment is to give the tempo and harmony.

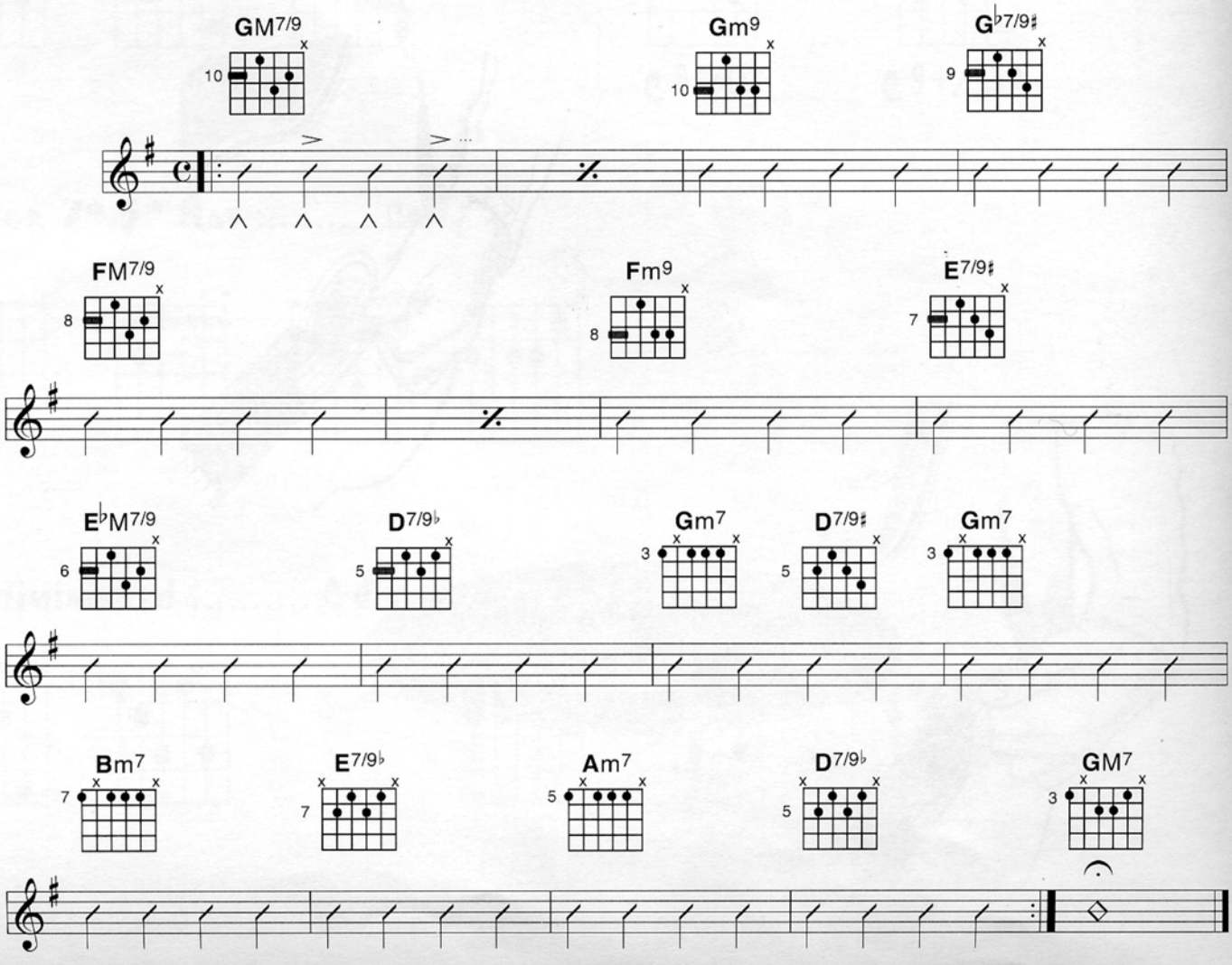
Exercice - 1

Play 4 regular beats. Your left hand should release the pressure after each stroke.



Exercice - 2

Make sure to accentuate the 2nd and 4th beats of each bar.



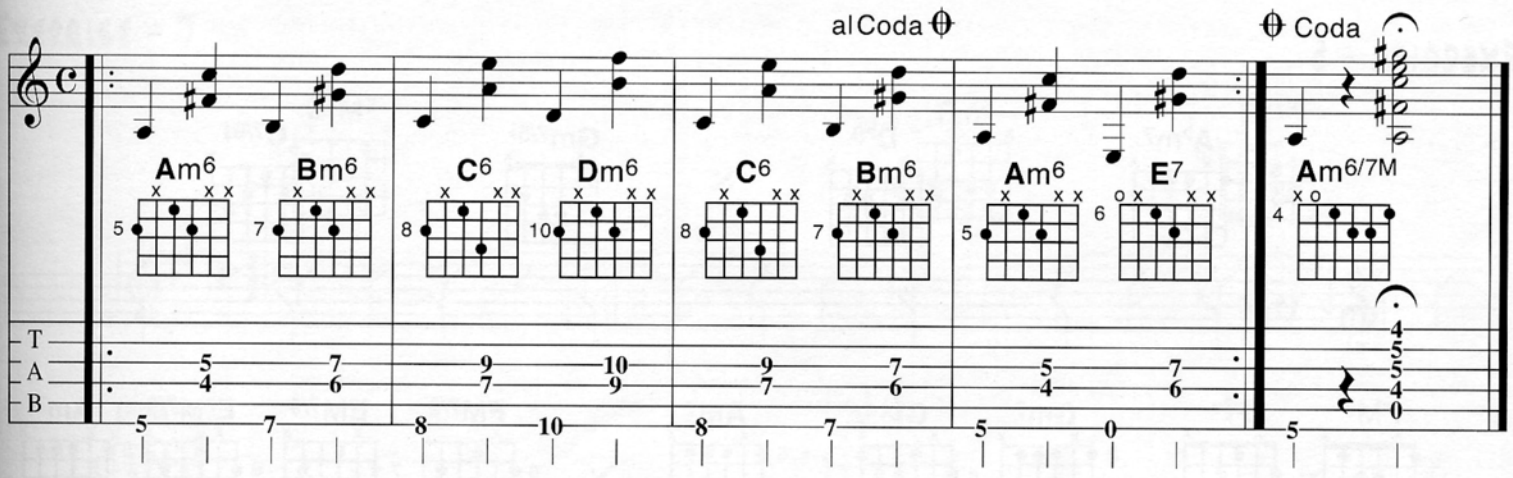
ACCOMPANIMENT

GYPSY PUMPING

TRACKS 11 / 12

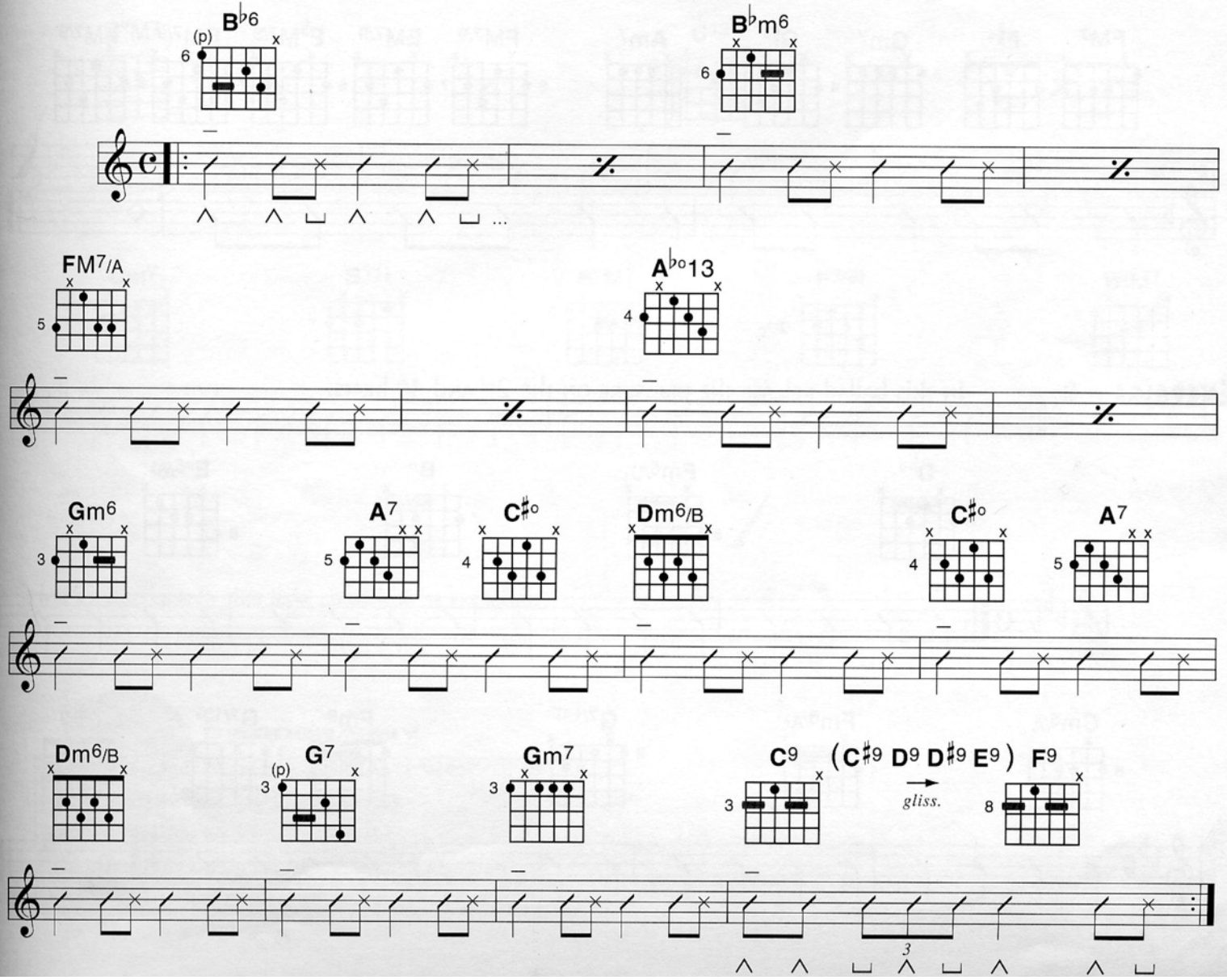
EXERCICE - 3

IN ORDER TO DEVELOP YOUR PLAYING HERE'S AN EXERCISE WITH THE BASSES DETACHED.



EXERCICE - 4

THIS EXERCISE SHOULD HAVE A PERCUSSIVE FEEL (PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE UP AND DOWN AND THE MUFFLED NOTES.)
NOTE THAT THE FINAL BAR IS DIFFERENT FROM THE REST.
THIS SERIES OF CHORDS CAN ALSO BE PLAYED IN THE STANDARD POSITIONS.



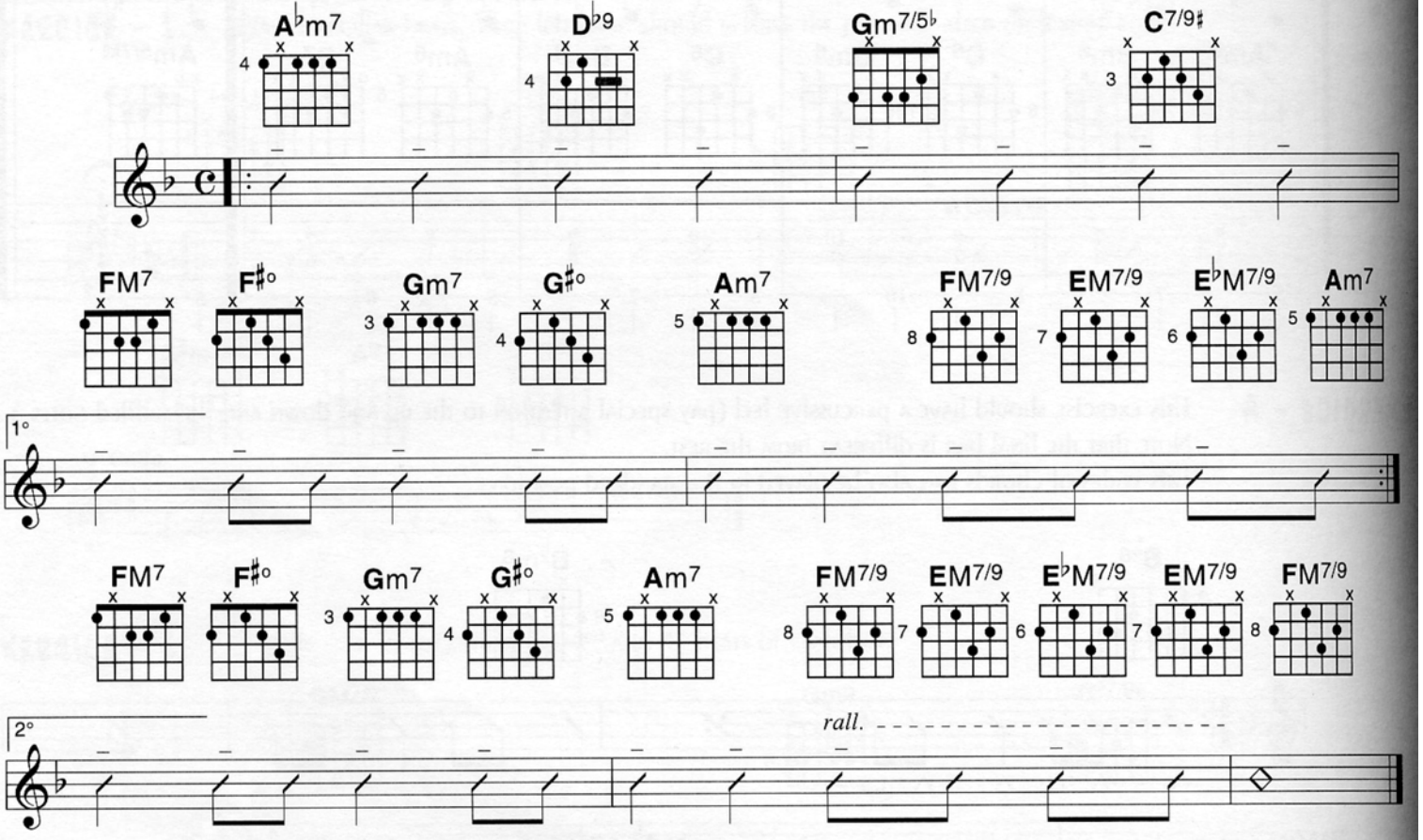
Accompaniment

Gypsy pumping

TRACKS 13 / 14

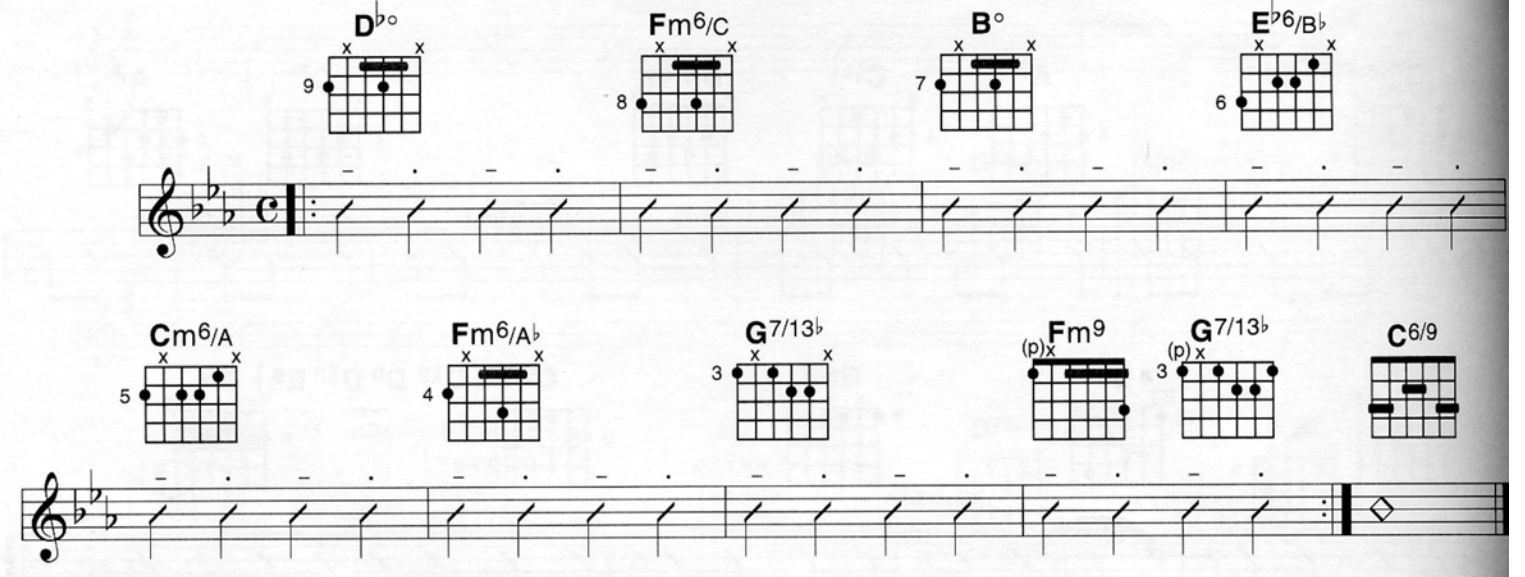
Nuages is an essential ballad for the guitarist.
Here's an accompaniment for it.
(remember not to release the pressure of the left hand)

Exercise - 5



Exercise - 6

In this ballad release the pressure on the 2nd and 4th beats.



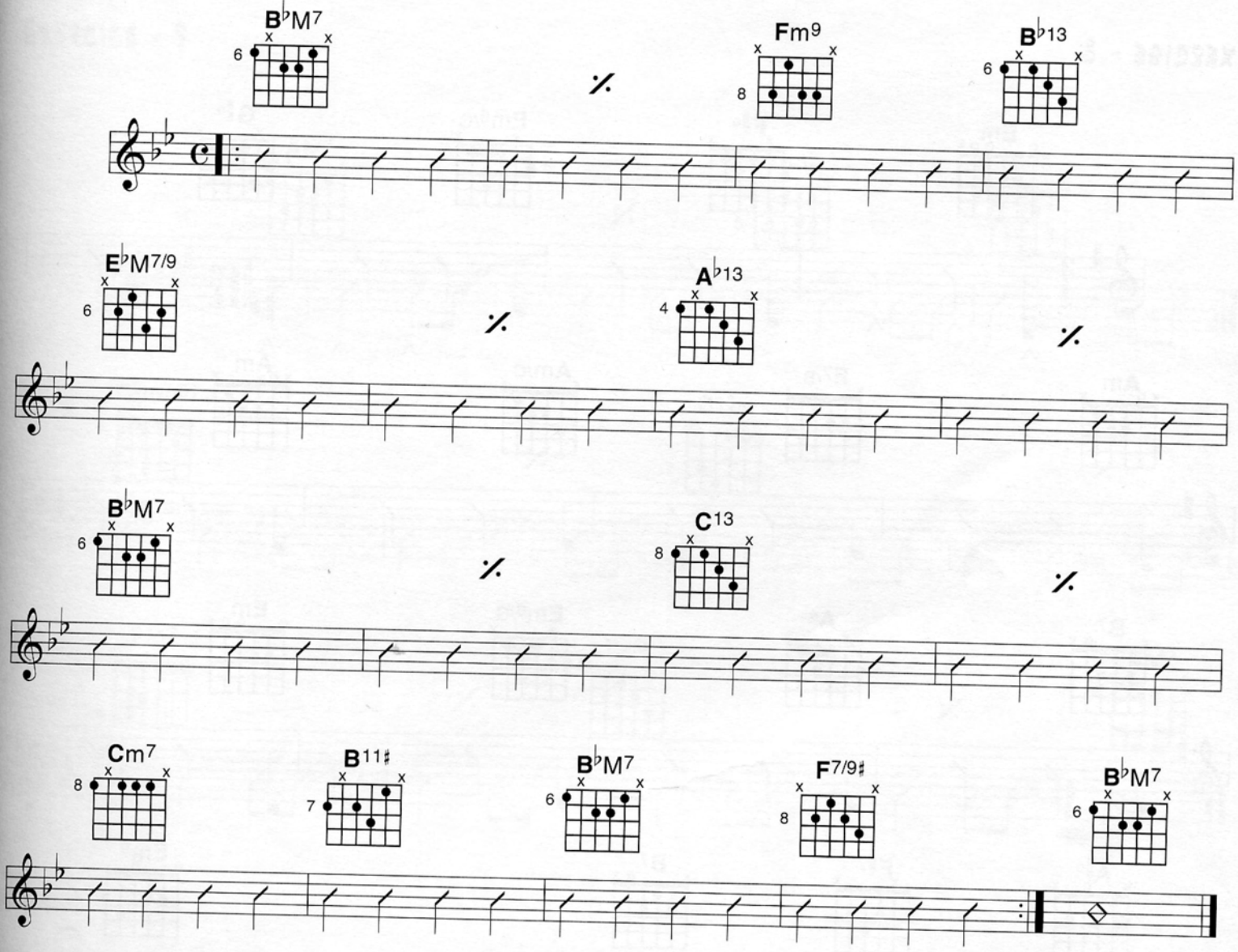
ACCOMPANIMENT

GYPSY PUMPING

TRACK 15

A series chords played fast tempo. We suggest learning the piece slowly before speeding it up.

EXERCISE - 7



HERE'S A DISCOGRAPHY THAT LINKS UP WITH THESE EXERCISES.

DISCOGRAPHY

Christian Escoudé *"Gipsy Trio"* " Holidays" (EMARCY)
Titi Winterstein *"Best Of"* (HAMER MUSIK)
Raphael Fays *"The Gipsy Way"* (MANDALA)
New Quintette du Hot Club de France (ARCO IRIS)
Rosenberg Trio *"Live at the north sea festival"* (VERVE)

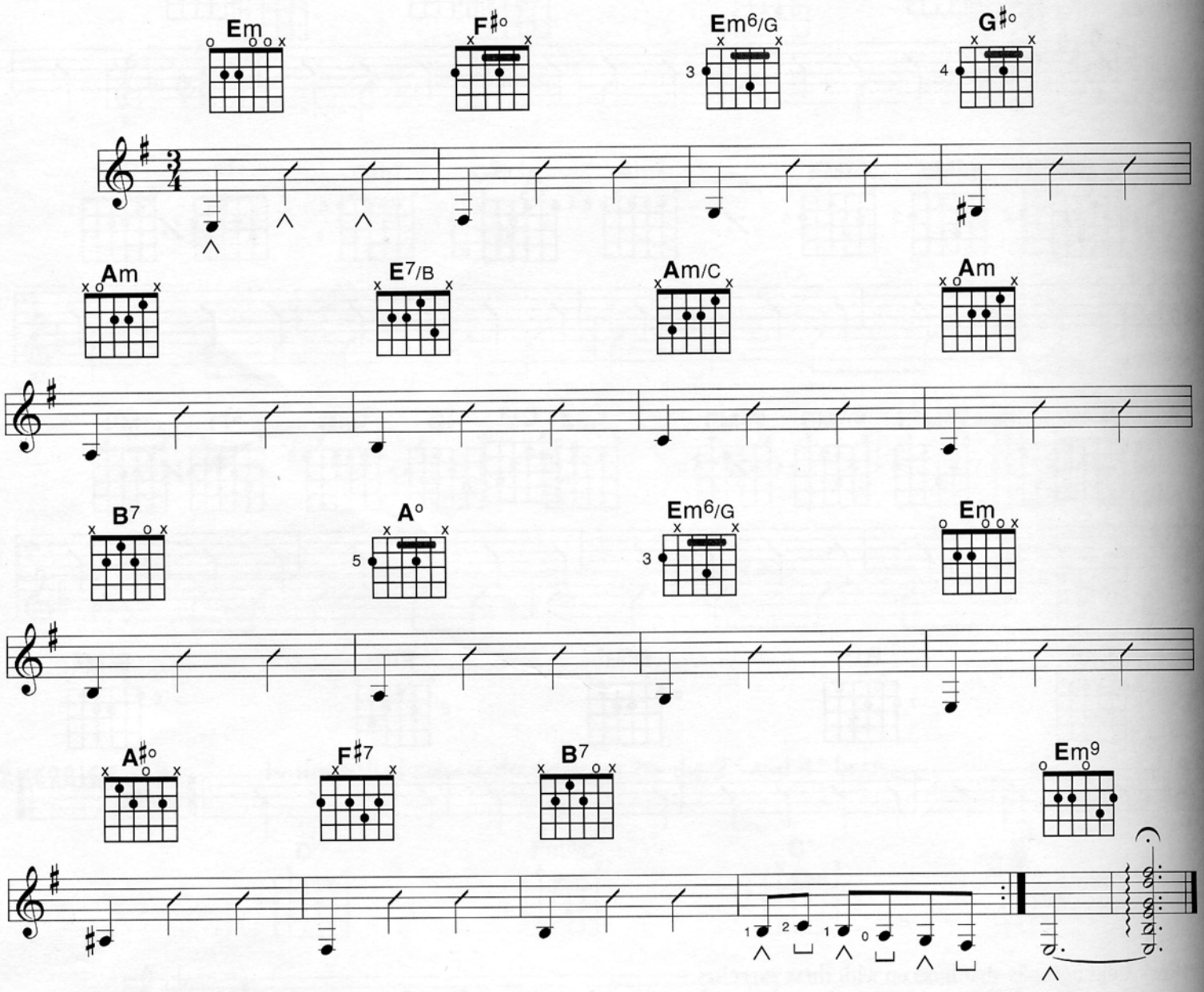
ACCOMPANIMENT

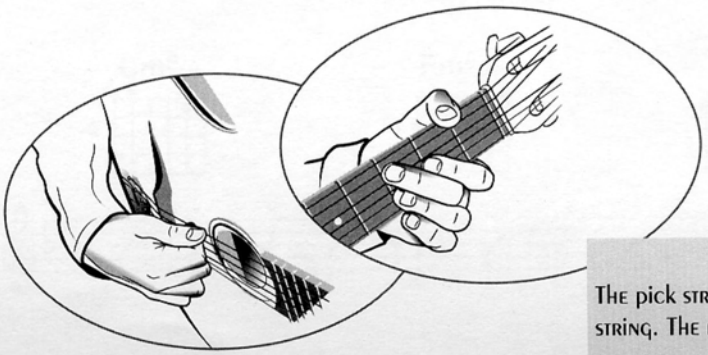
WALTZ RHYTHM

TRACKS 16 / 17

THE WALTZ IS AN ESSENTIAL RHYTHM OF THE GYPSY STYLE.
MAKE NOTE THAT THE BASSES ARE DAMPED.

EXERCISE - 8





DAMPING THE BASSES

THE PICK STRIKES THE STRING DOWNWARDS AND RESTS ON THE FOLLOWING STRING. THE MOVEMENT IS STOPPED BY THIS SECOND STRING.

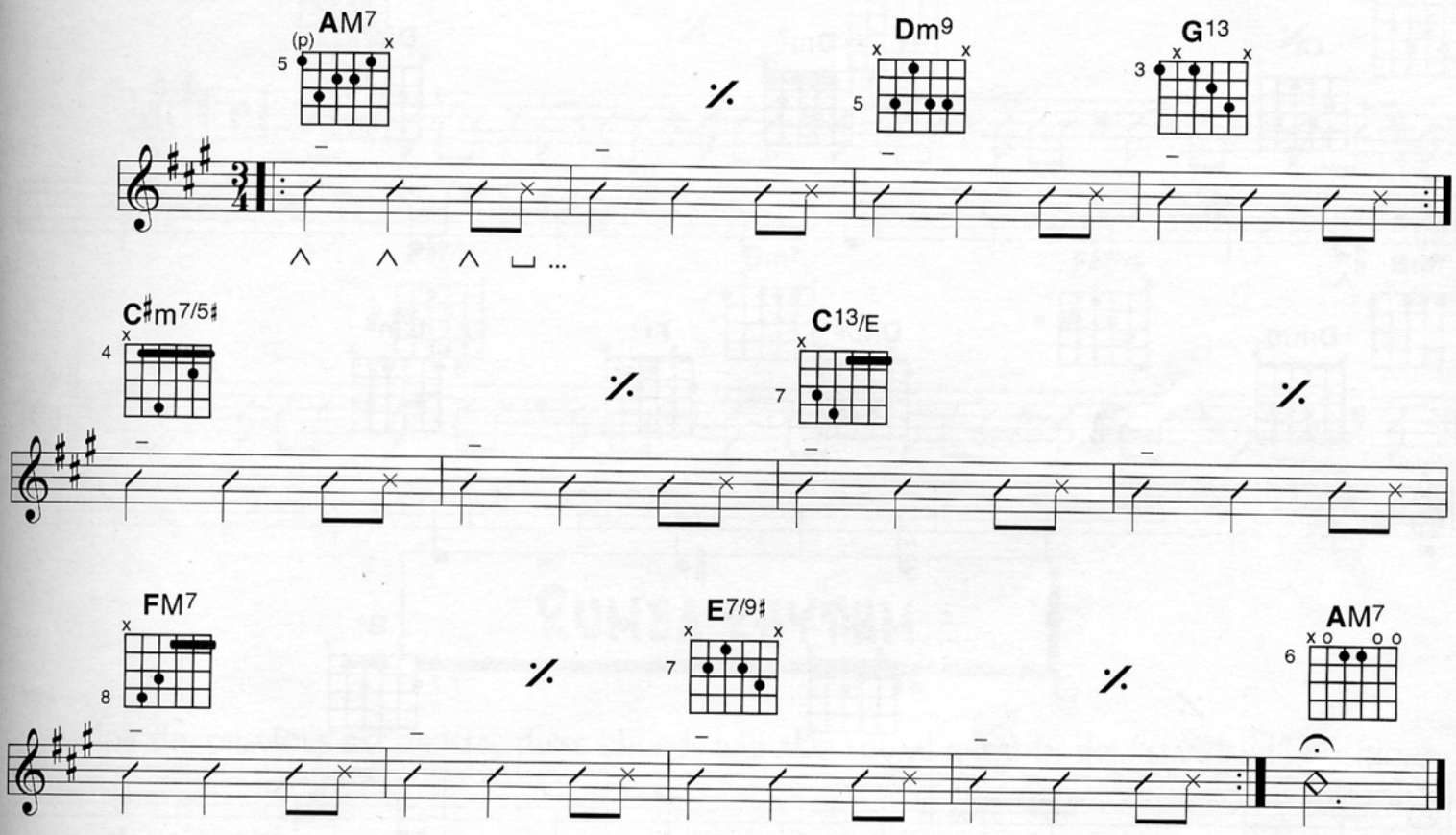
ACCOMPANIMENT

WALTZ RHYTHM

TRACK 18

A VARIATION ON THE WALTZ IN A MORE CONTEMPORARY STYLE.

EXERCISE - 9



DISCOGRAPHY

Jo Privat *"Manouche Partie"* (NOCTURNE)
Mandino et Note Manouche *"Gypsy Music From Alsace"* (MASO)
Dorado Schmitt *"Parisienne"* (DJAZ REC)
Moréno (AL SUR)

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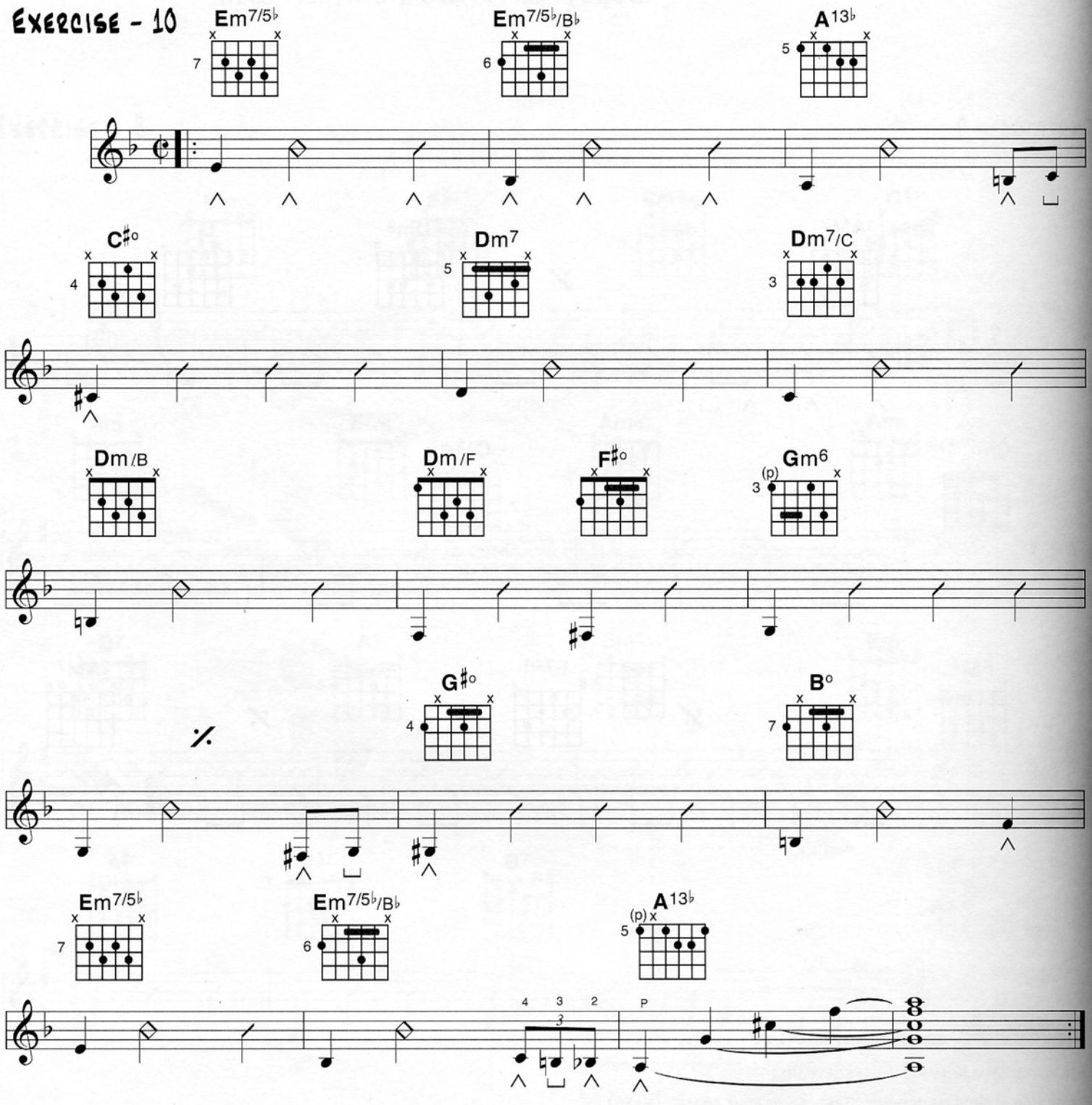
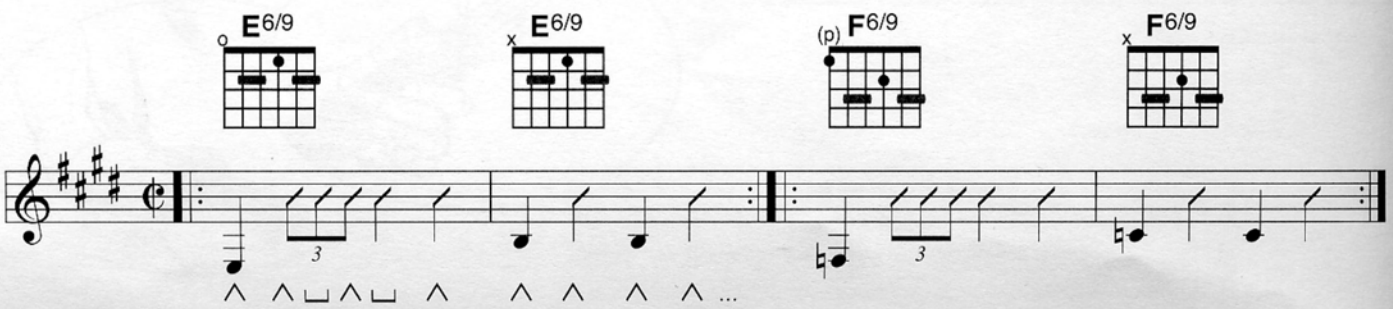
ACCOMPANIMENT

BOLERO RHYTHM

TRACKS 19 / 2

You will need to listen to the CD to get the feel of this rhythm.

EXERCISE - 10

EXERCISE - 11 Pay special attention to the right hand for this Django style bolero.



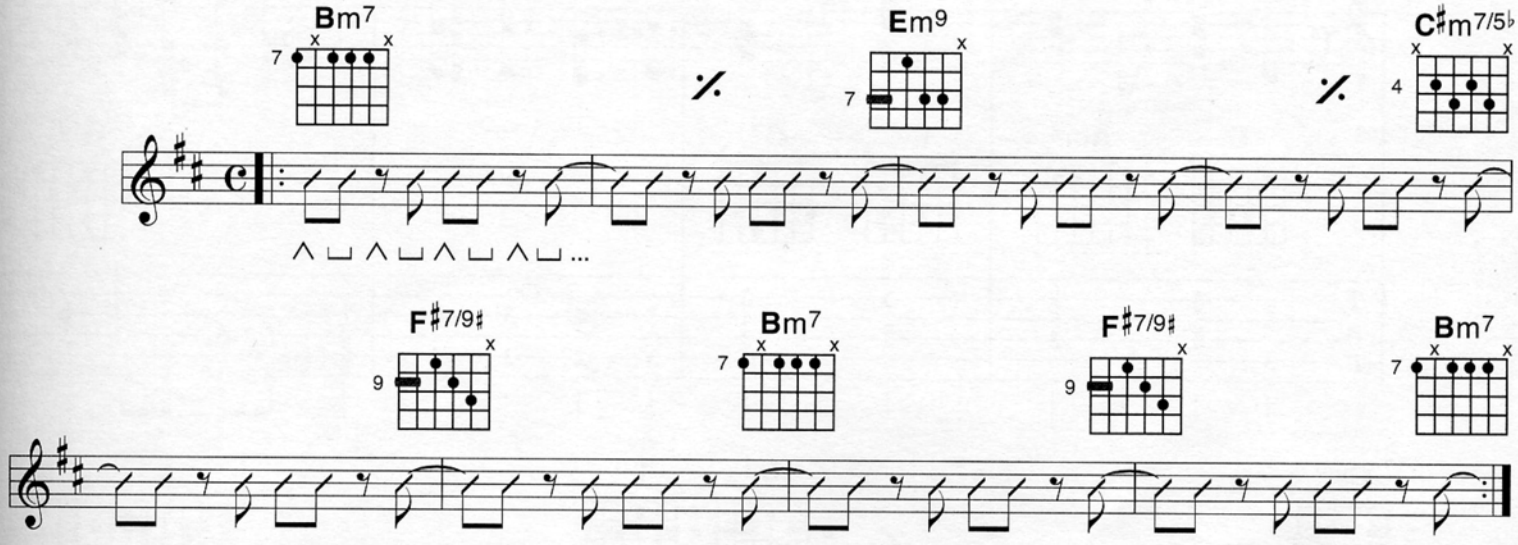
ACCOMPANIMENT

BOSSA NOVA RHYTHM

TRACKS 21 / 22

Completely different from the brazilian style of playing, this bossa nova rhythm played with the plectrum needs a very flexible wrist.
Note that the chords are played before the beat.

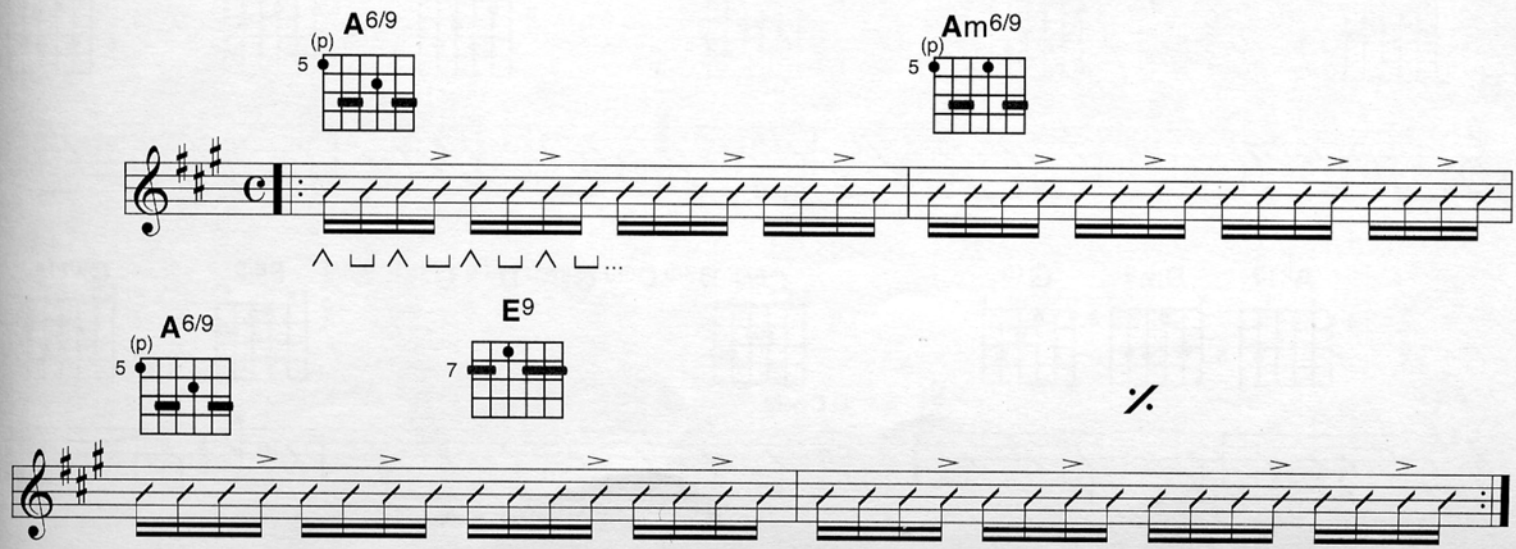
EXERCISE - 12



RUMBA RHYTHM

As for the previous excercises, these chords will also sound great in the "standard" positions.

EXERCISE - 13



ACCOMPANIMENT

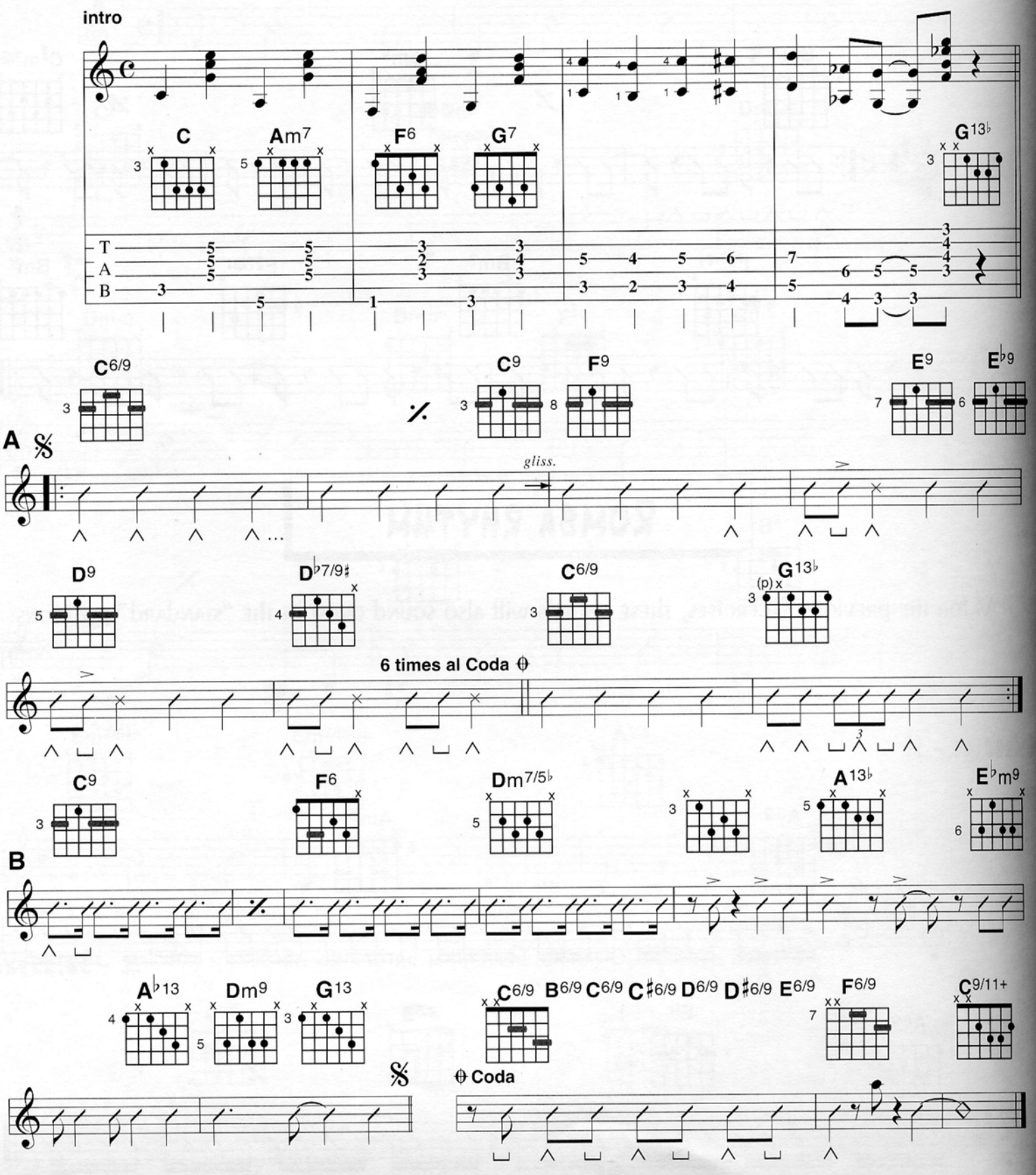
GYPSY PUMPING

TRACK 23

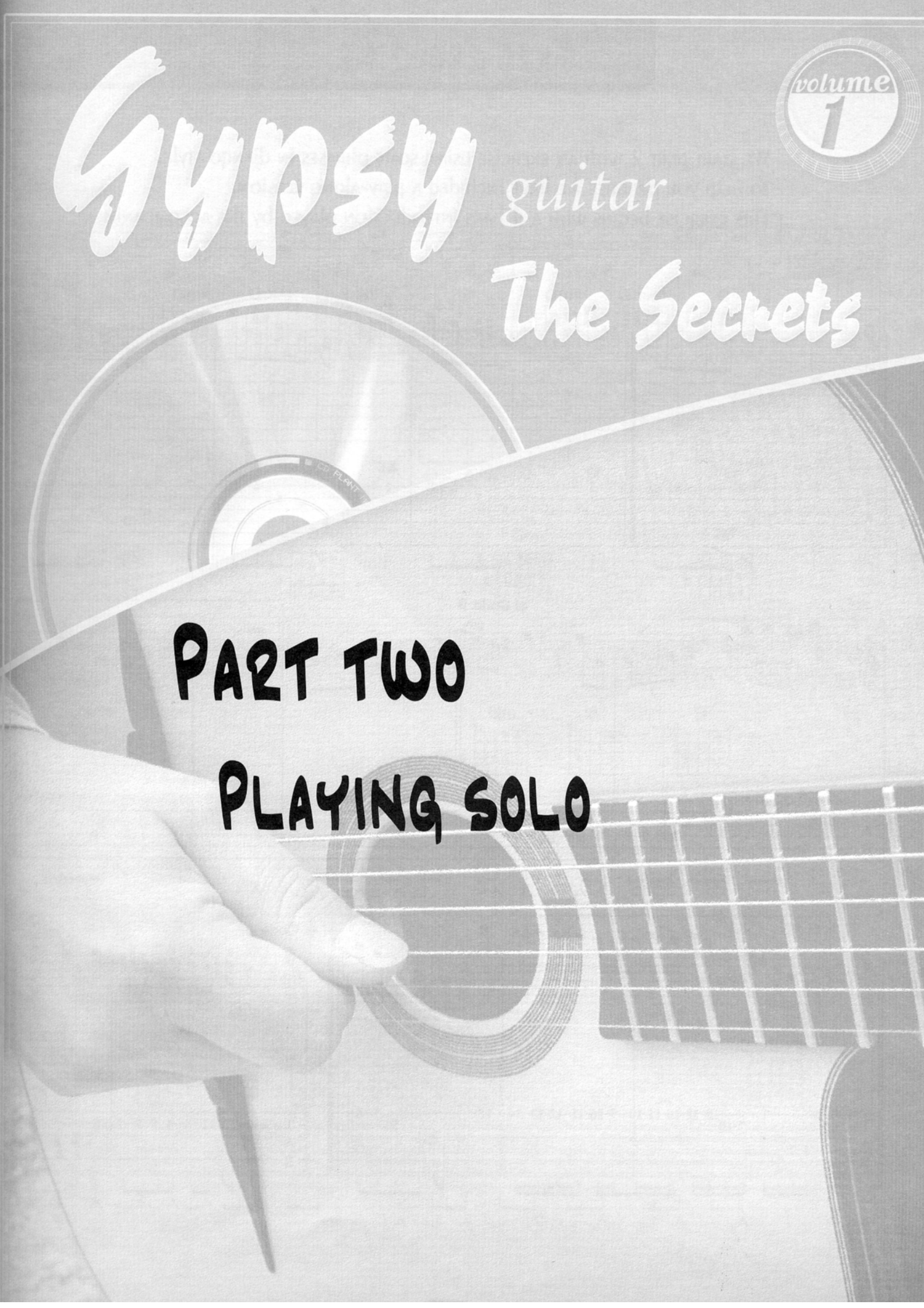
TEST EXERCISE

To finish this first part, here's an exercise with a number of rhytmical changes.

EXERCISE - 14

Plays A A B A

Gypsy guitar The Secrets

volume 1



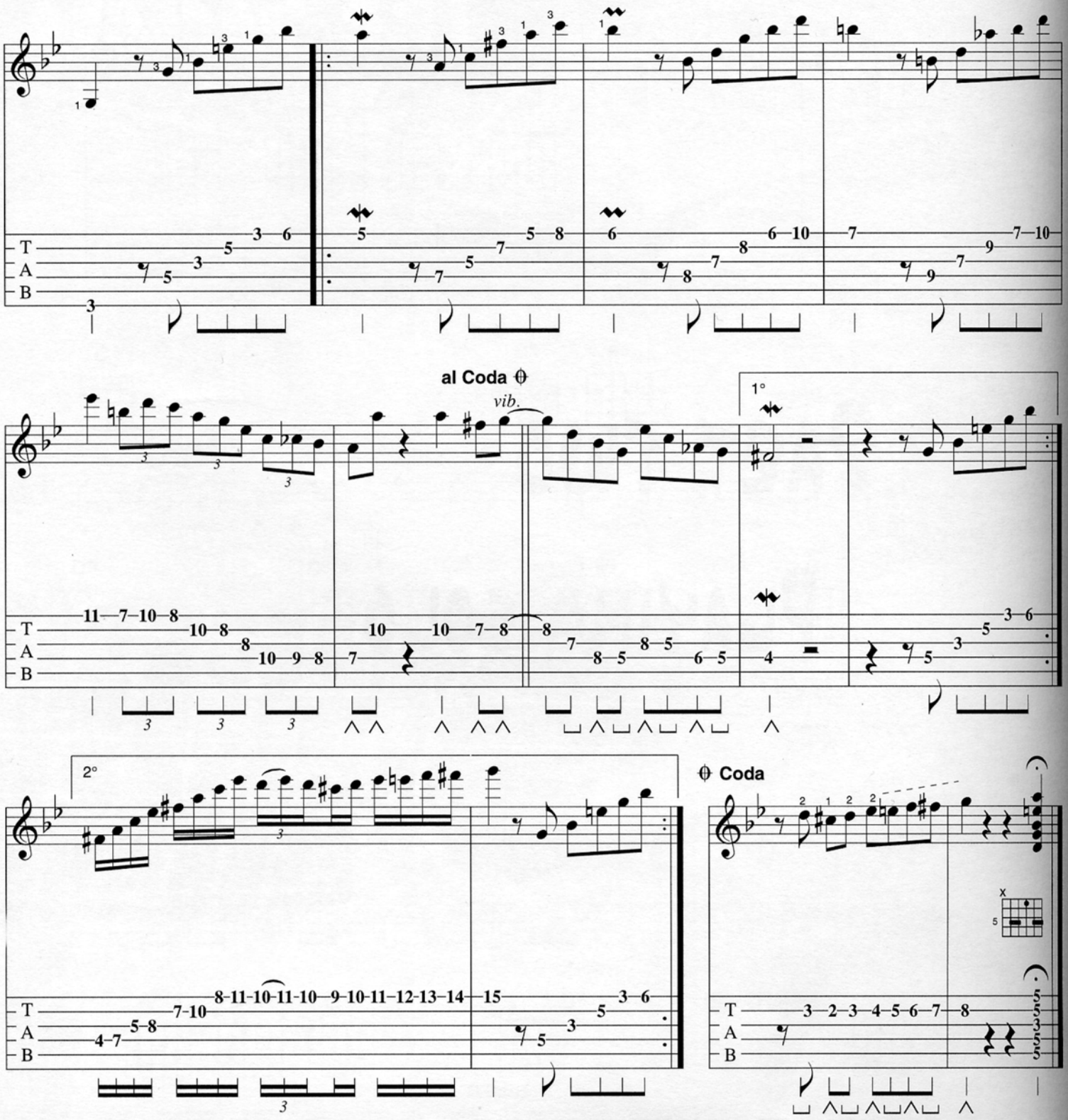
Part two
Playing solo

Playing solo

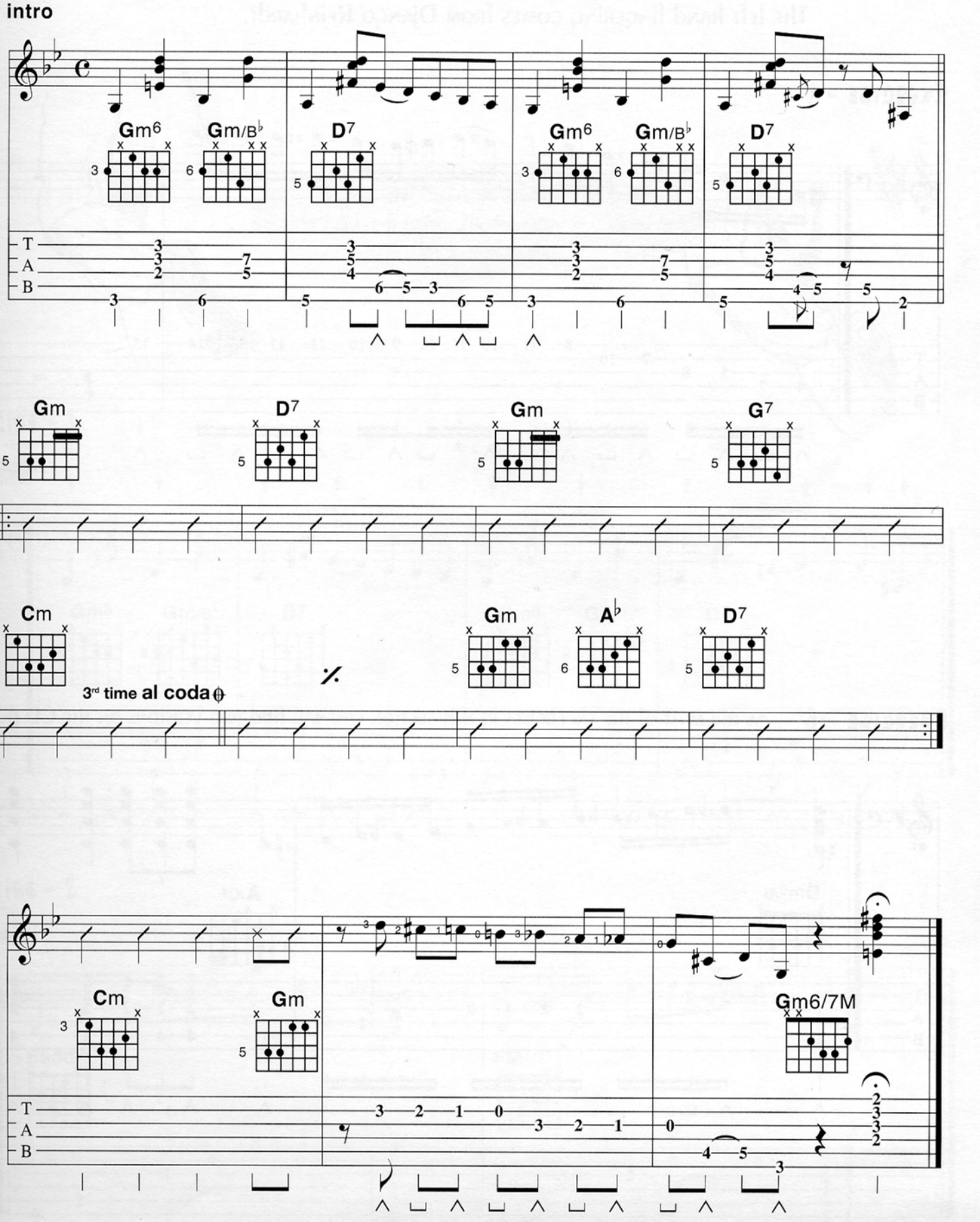
TEST EXERCISE

TRACKS 24 / 25

We start part 2 with an exercise using some phrases in Django style.
To help you practise we have included a play-along version.
This exercise begins with a 4 bars introduction played by the accompaniment.

intro 4 bars

ACCOMPANIMENT

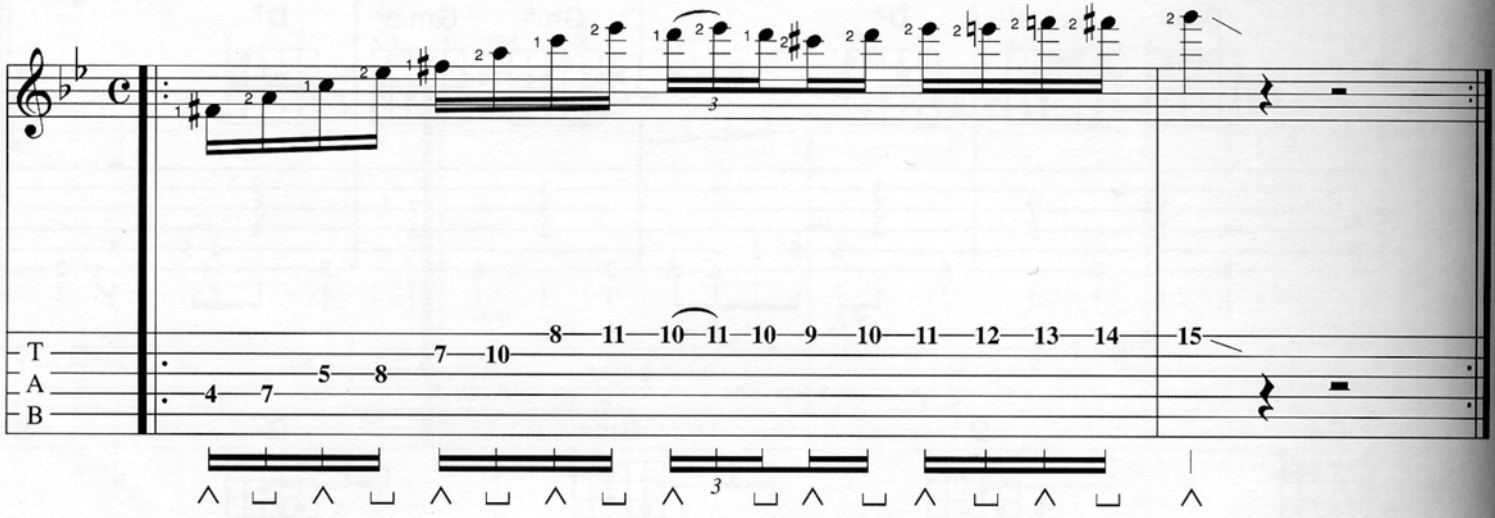
TRACK 26



Up and down technique

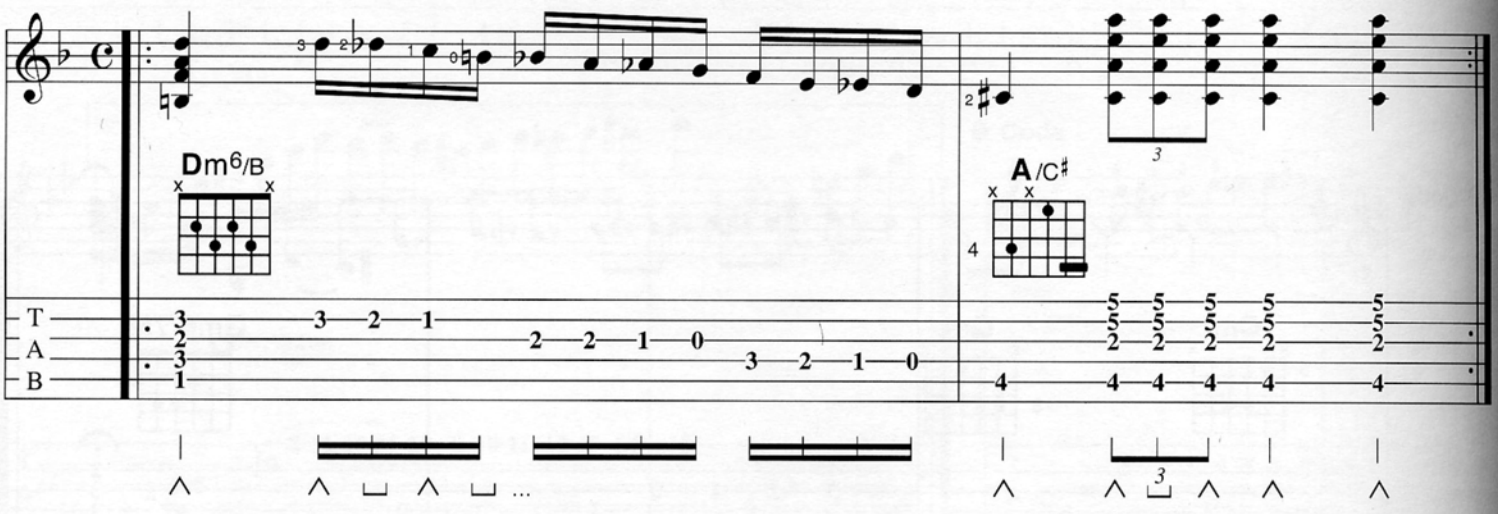
The up and down technique lets you play rapid phrases and also gives a better balance.
The left hand fingering comes from Django Reinhardt.

Exercise - 1



Exercise - 2

As for most of the excercises in this section you will find two versions on the CD (fast/slow)



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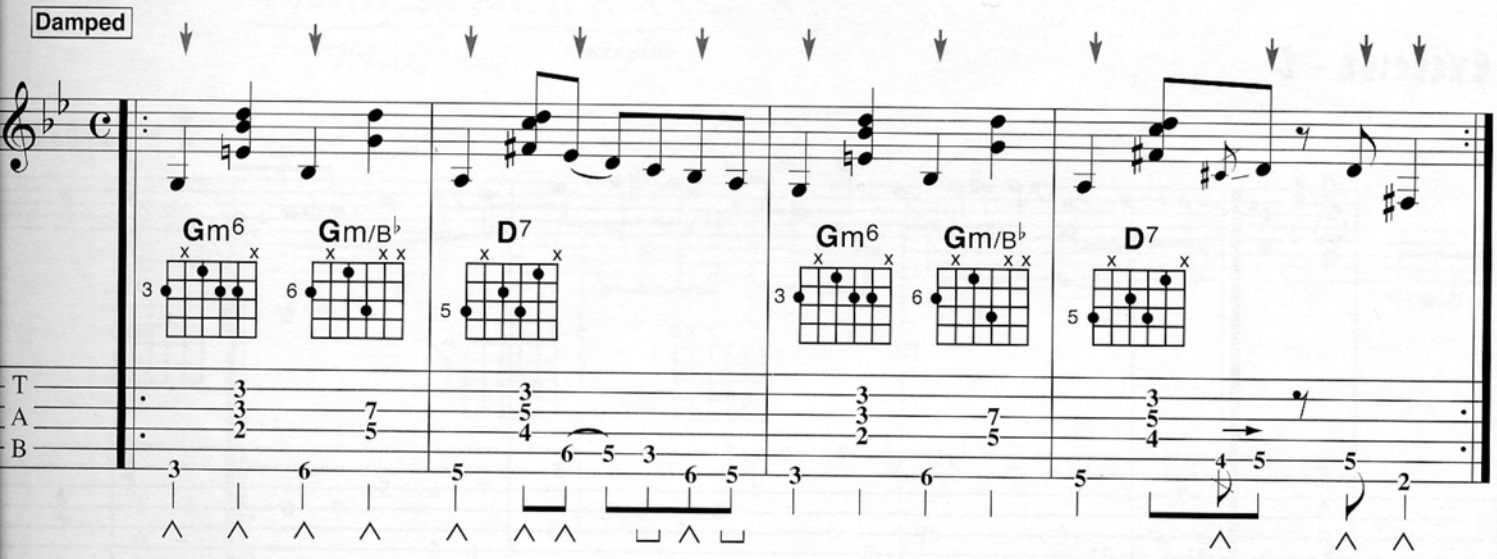
Damping technique

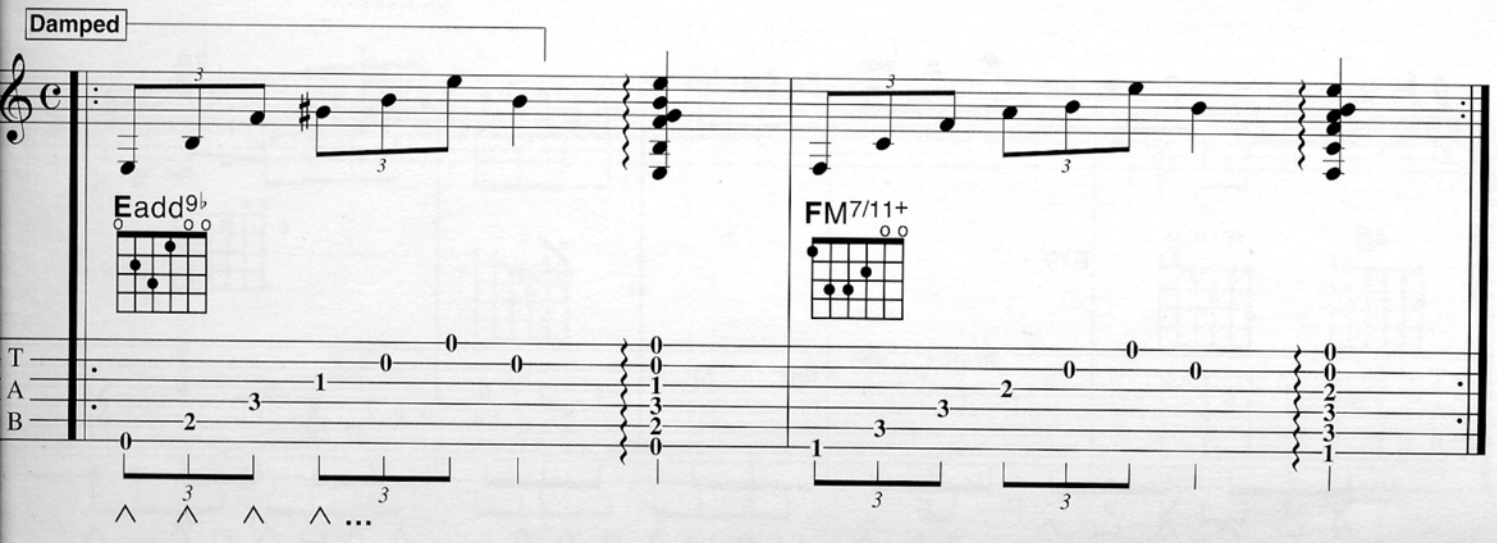
In order to give the maximum clarity and volume the plectrum damps the chord below. Gypsy guitarists use this technique a lot. Also known as rest-stroke technique.

The plectrum strikes the string and rests on the following string. The movement is stopped by this second string.

Exercise - 1



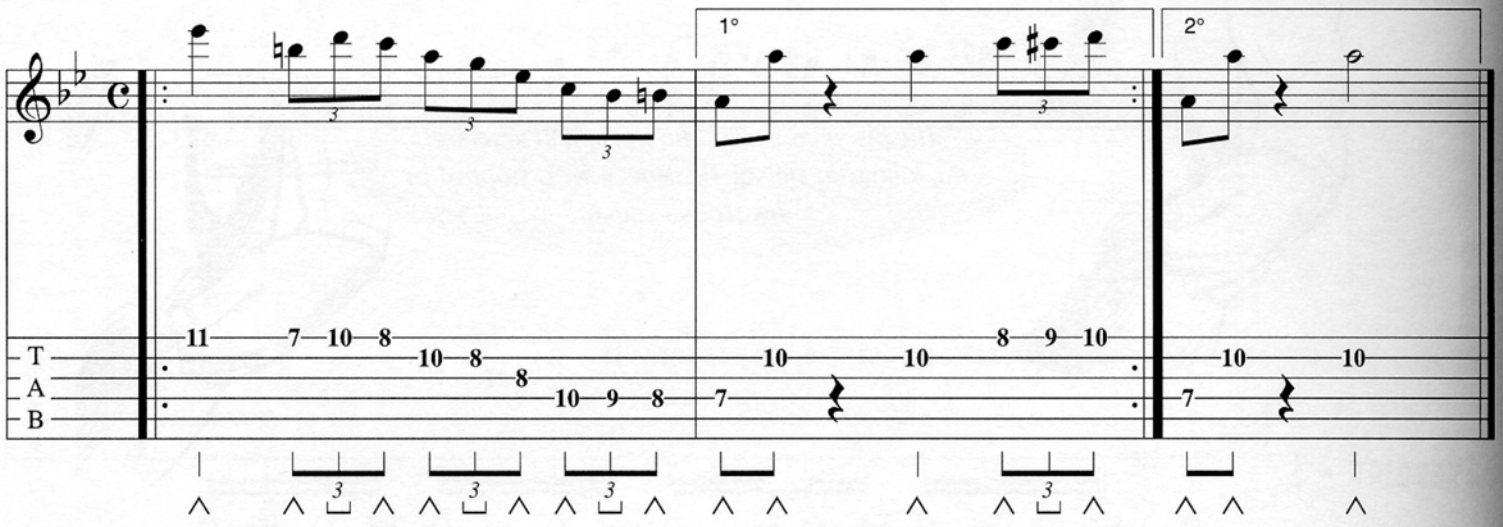
Exercise - 2

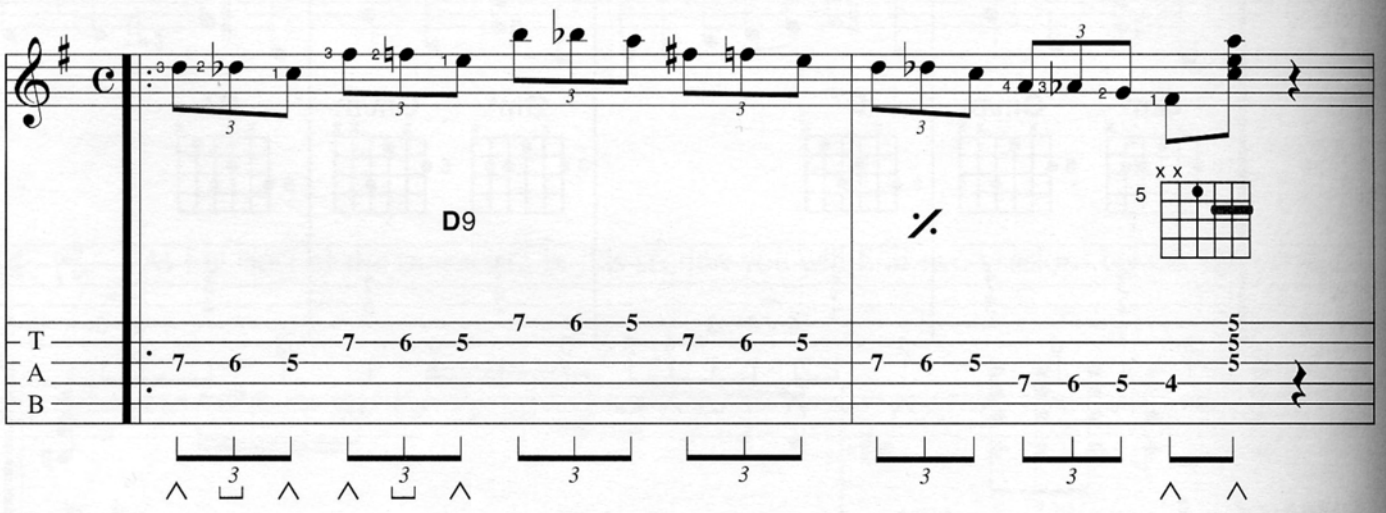
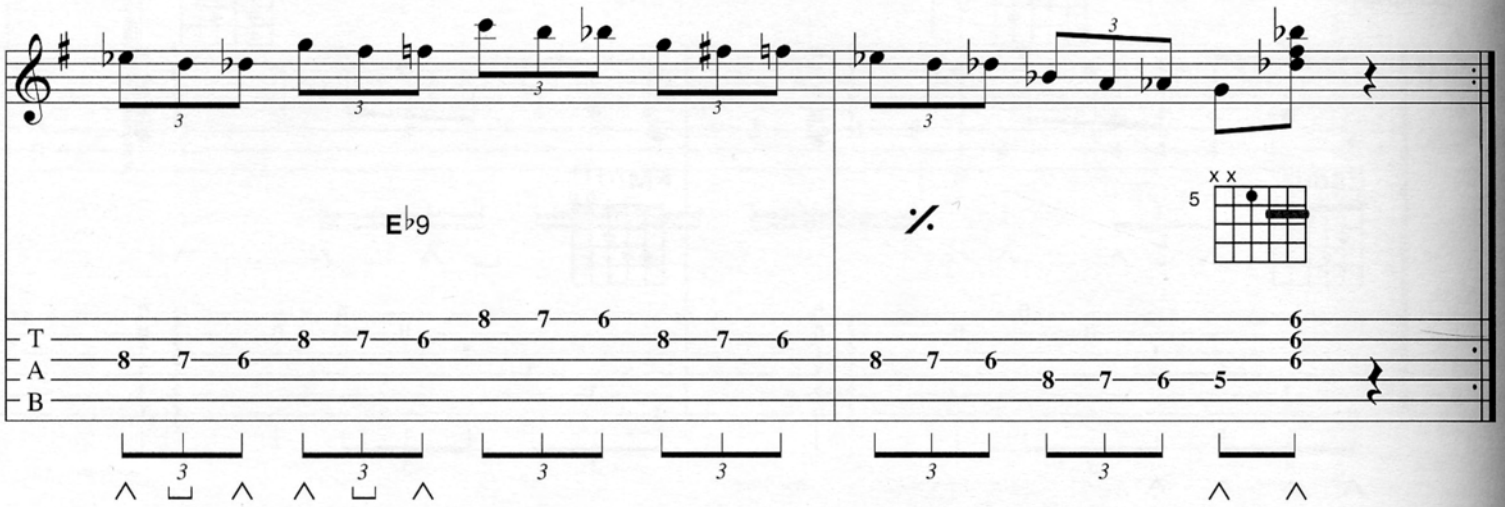


TRIPLET TECHNIQUE

This plectrum strike often used by Django is little known and can be difficult to get a grip of but enables a good articulation.

EXERCISE - 1 (∧⊔∧ ∧⊔∧)



EXERCISE - 2

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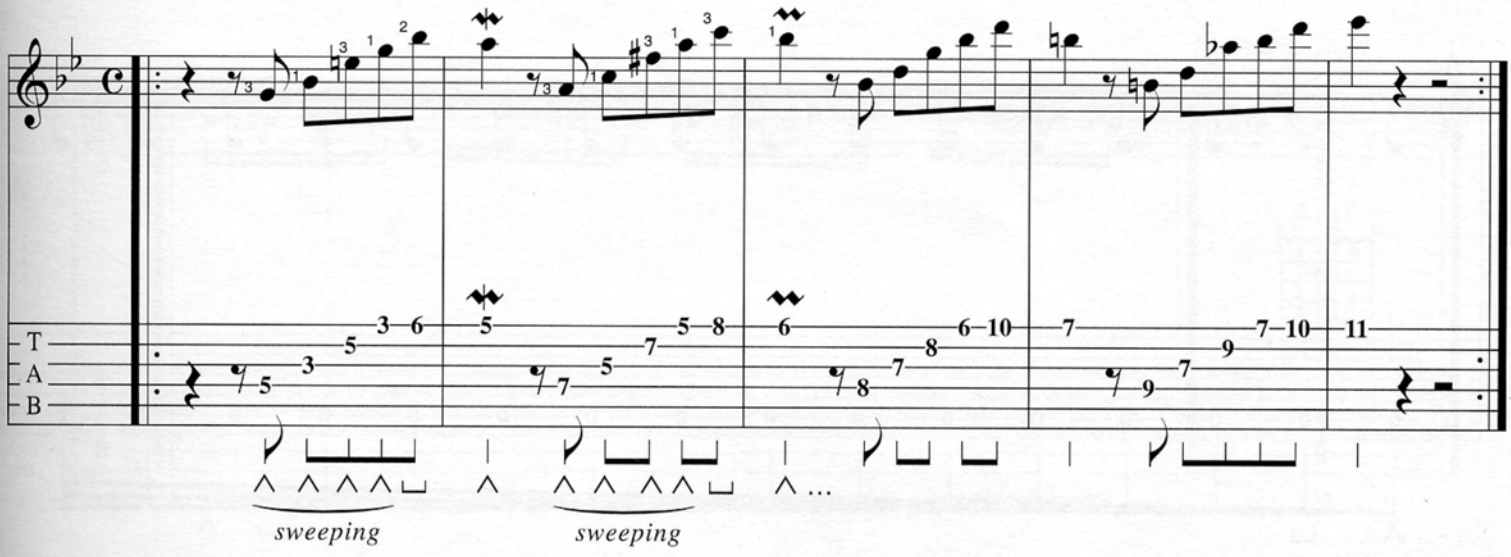
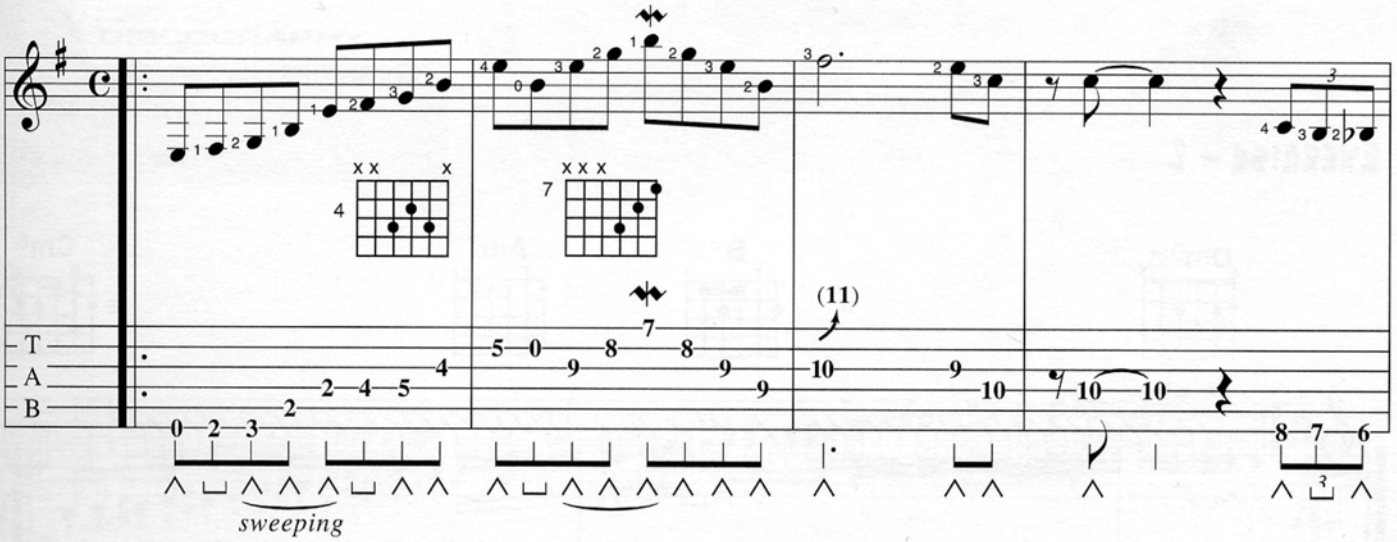
Sweeping technique

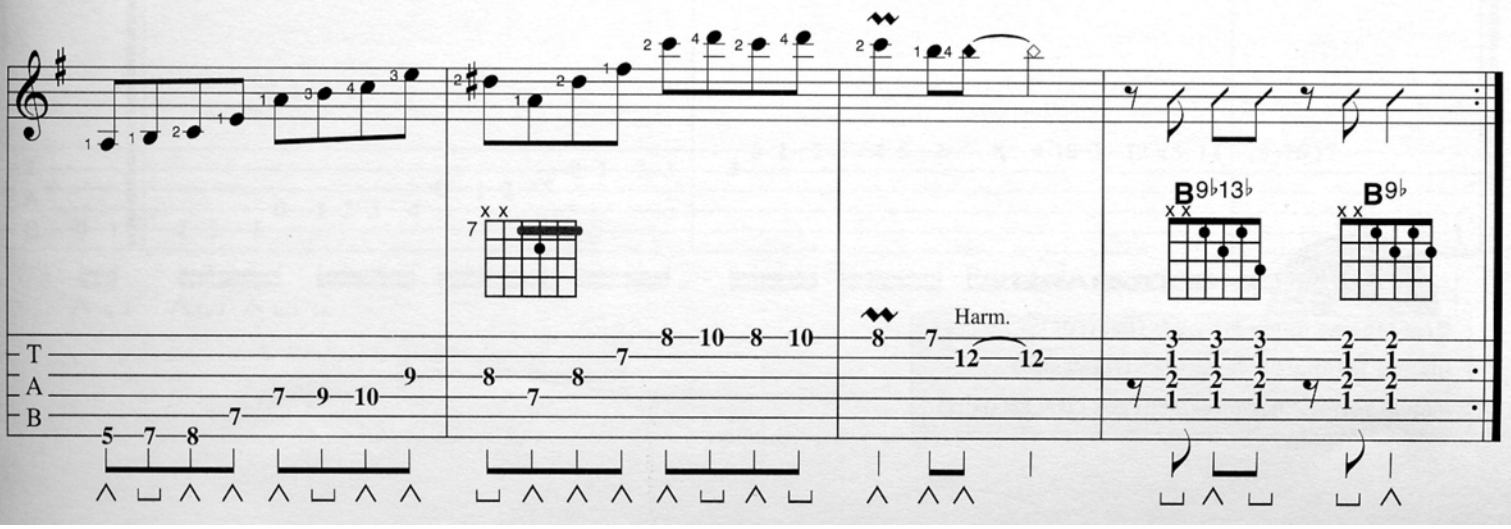
In order to achieve the best balance gypsy guitarists use the sweeping technique. This technique is particularly useful because the plectrum plays in a single direction.

Exercise - 1



Exercise - 2





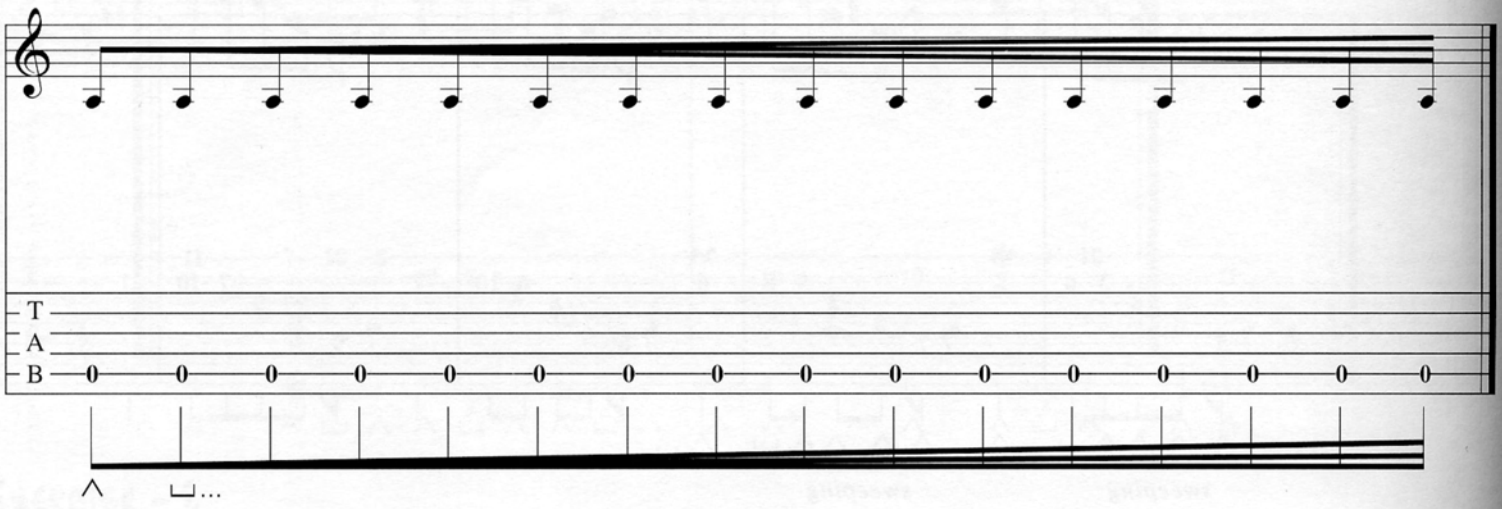
Playing solo

ROLLING TECHNIQUE

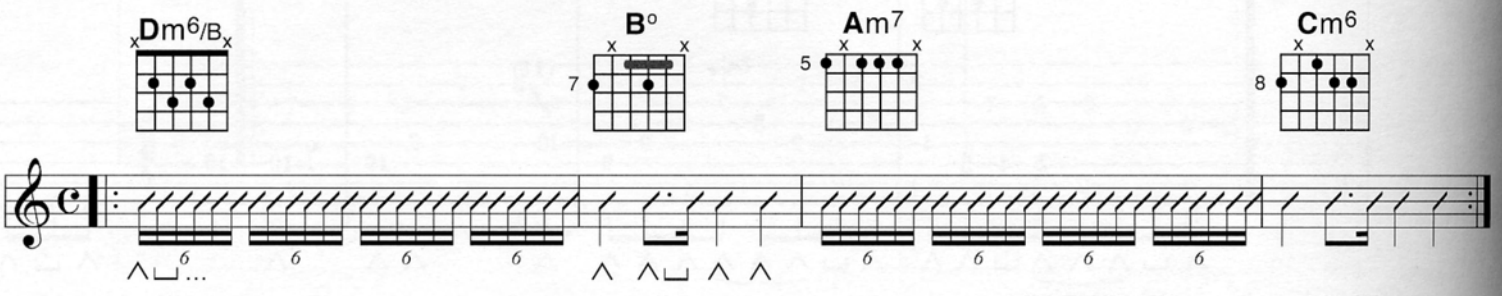
TRACKS 36 / 3

Also called tremolo, this much used technique has been adapted from the mandolin. It can be played on one note or on chords.

EXERCISE - 1



EXERCISE - 2



DISCOGRAPHY

Bireli Lagrene *"Gipsy Project"* (DREYFUS)
Django Reinhardt *"Integrale"* (FREMEAUX)
Matelo Ferret *"Tziganskaïa"* (HOT CLUB RECORDS)

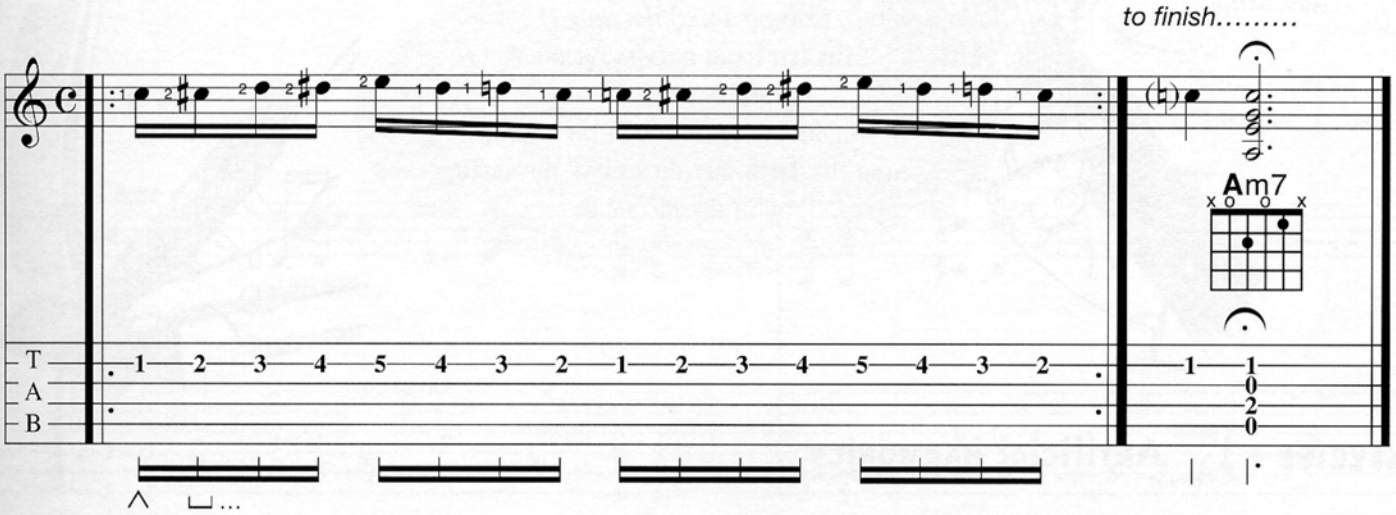
Playing solo

CHROMATIC TECHNIQUE

TRACKS 38 / 39

AN ESSENTIAL TECHNIQUE THAT GIVES A DYNAMIC EFFECT.
THE FINGERING REQUIRES ALOT OF VIRTUOSITY.

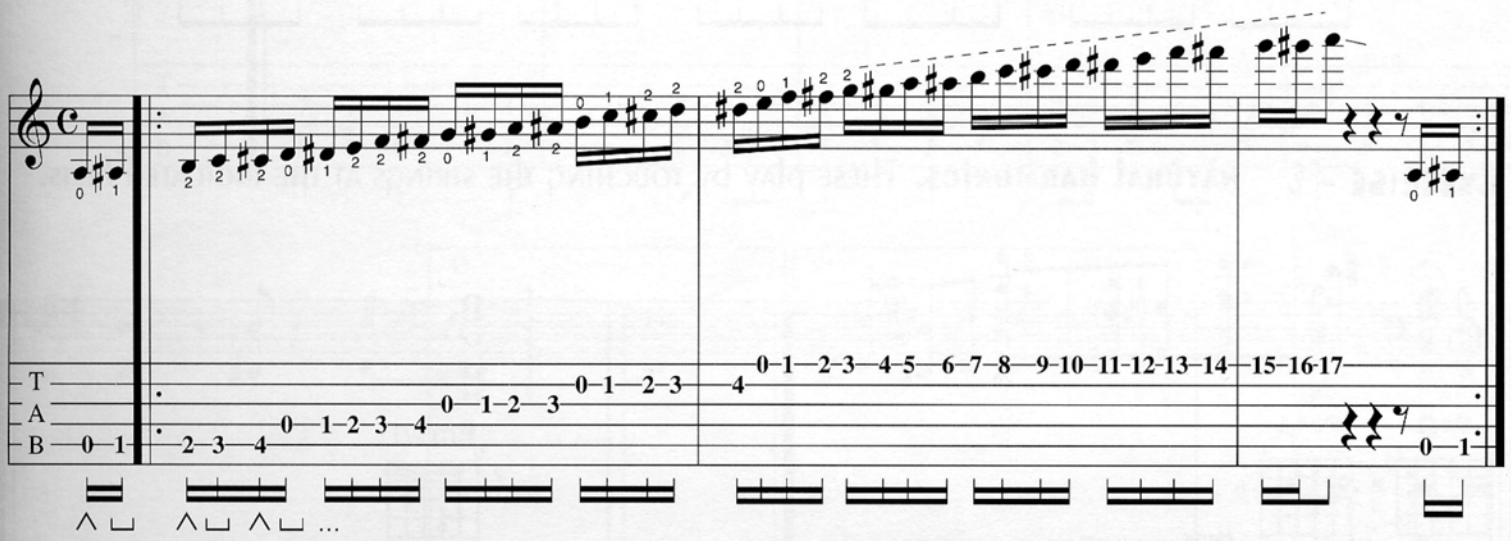
EXERCISE - 1



DISCOGRAPHY

Angélo Debarre *"Gipsy Guitars"* (HOT CLUB RECORDS)
Babik Reinhardt *"Live"* (RDC)
Django Reinhardt (vogue)

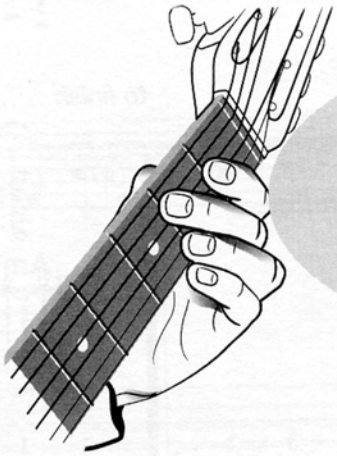
EXERCISE - 2



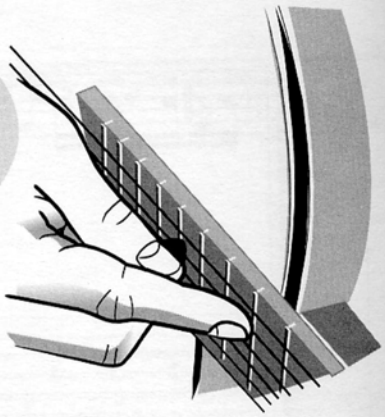
Harmonic technique

Artificial harmonics

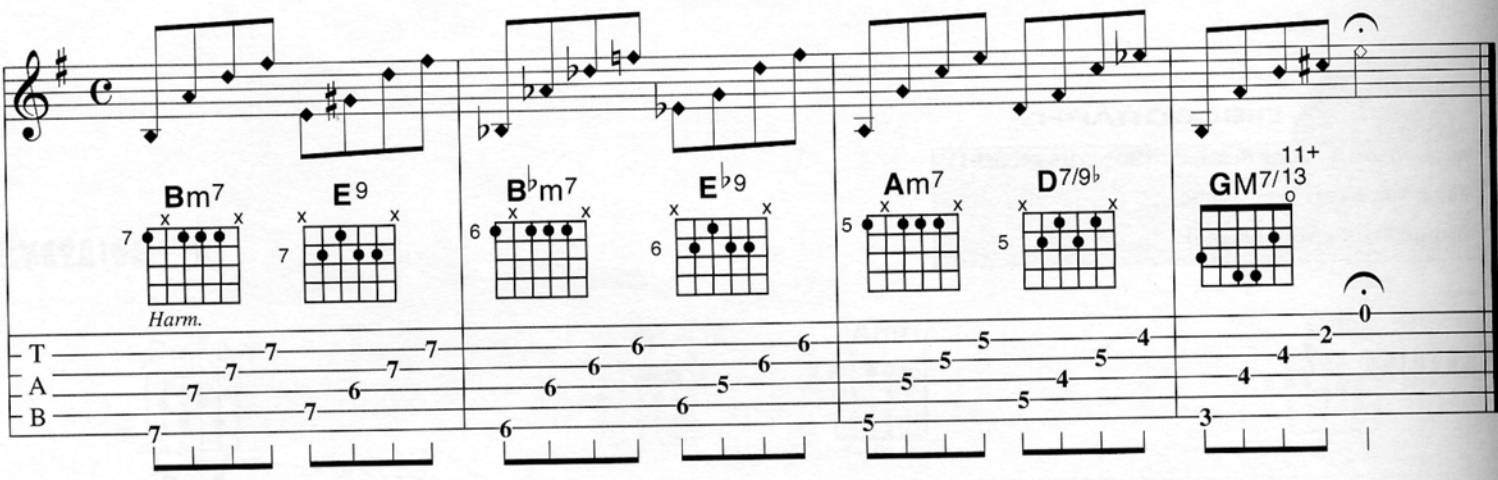
The left hand plays normally. With the index finger of the right hand you touch lightly the string at the chosen place (12 frets further up from the left hand). The plectrum is held between the thumb and the middle finger.



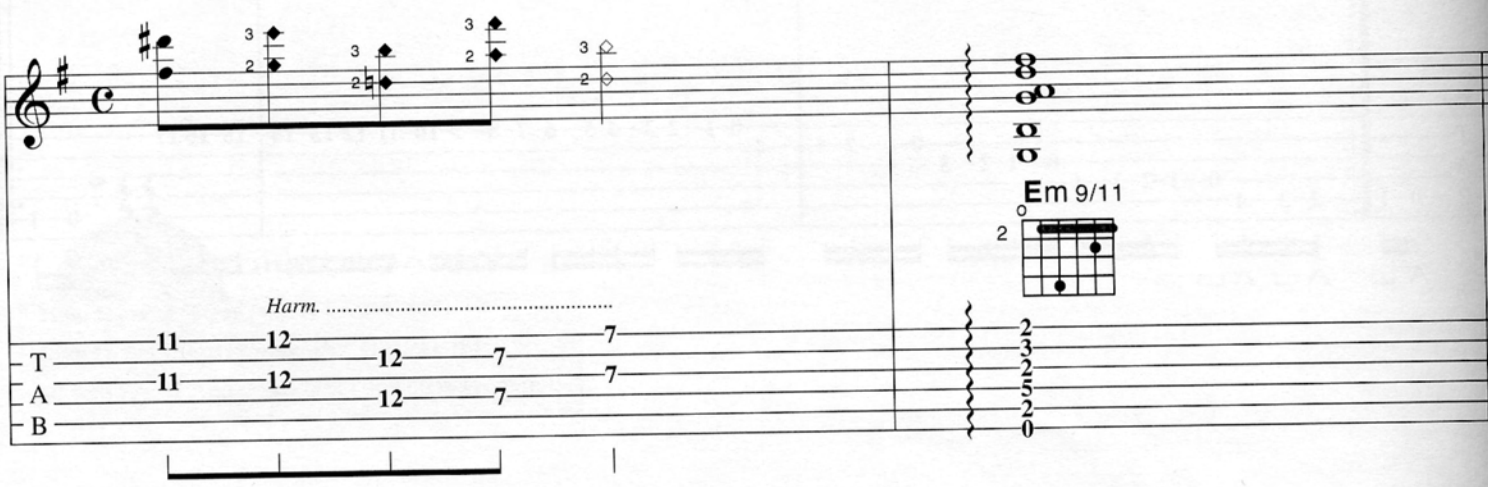
Example using the note B :
The left hand presses on the **A** string on the 2nd fret.
The index finger touch the string near the 14th fret then plays the string with the plectrum.



Exercise - 1 Artificial harmonics



Exercise - 2 natural harmonics. These play by touching the strings at the indicated frets.



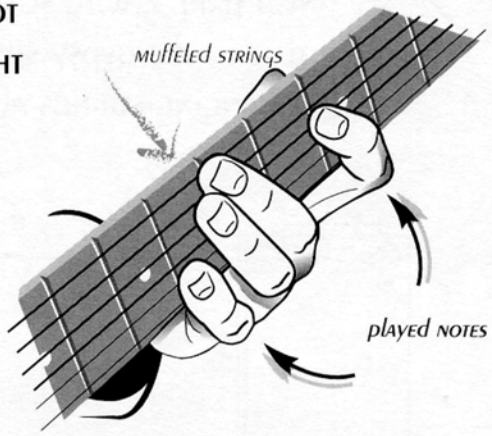
All rights r

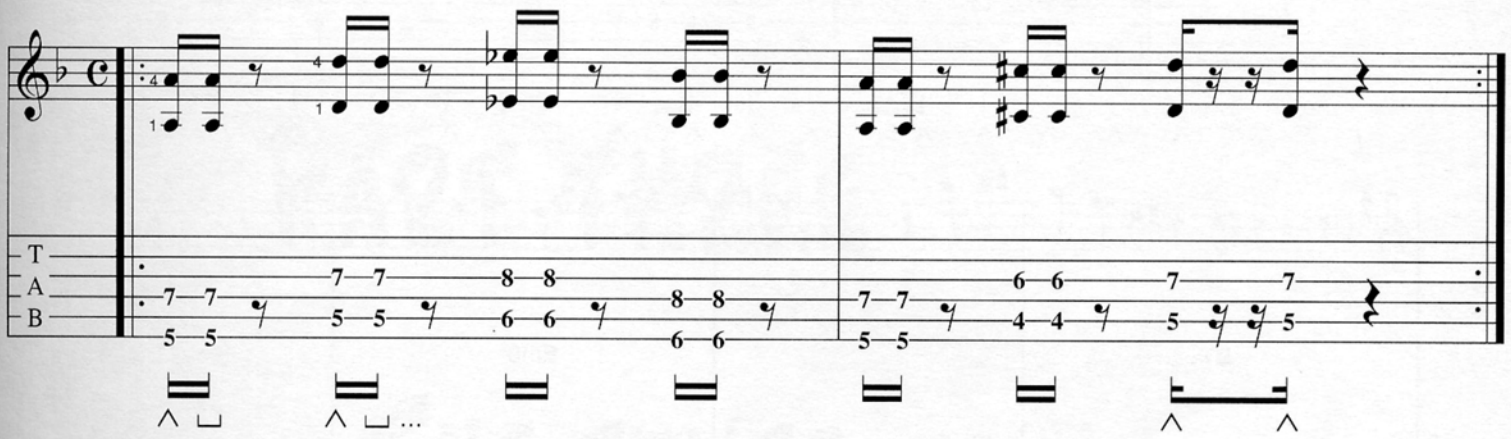
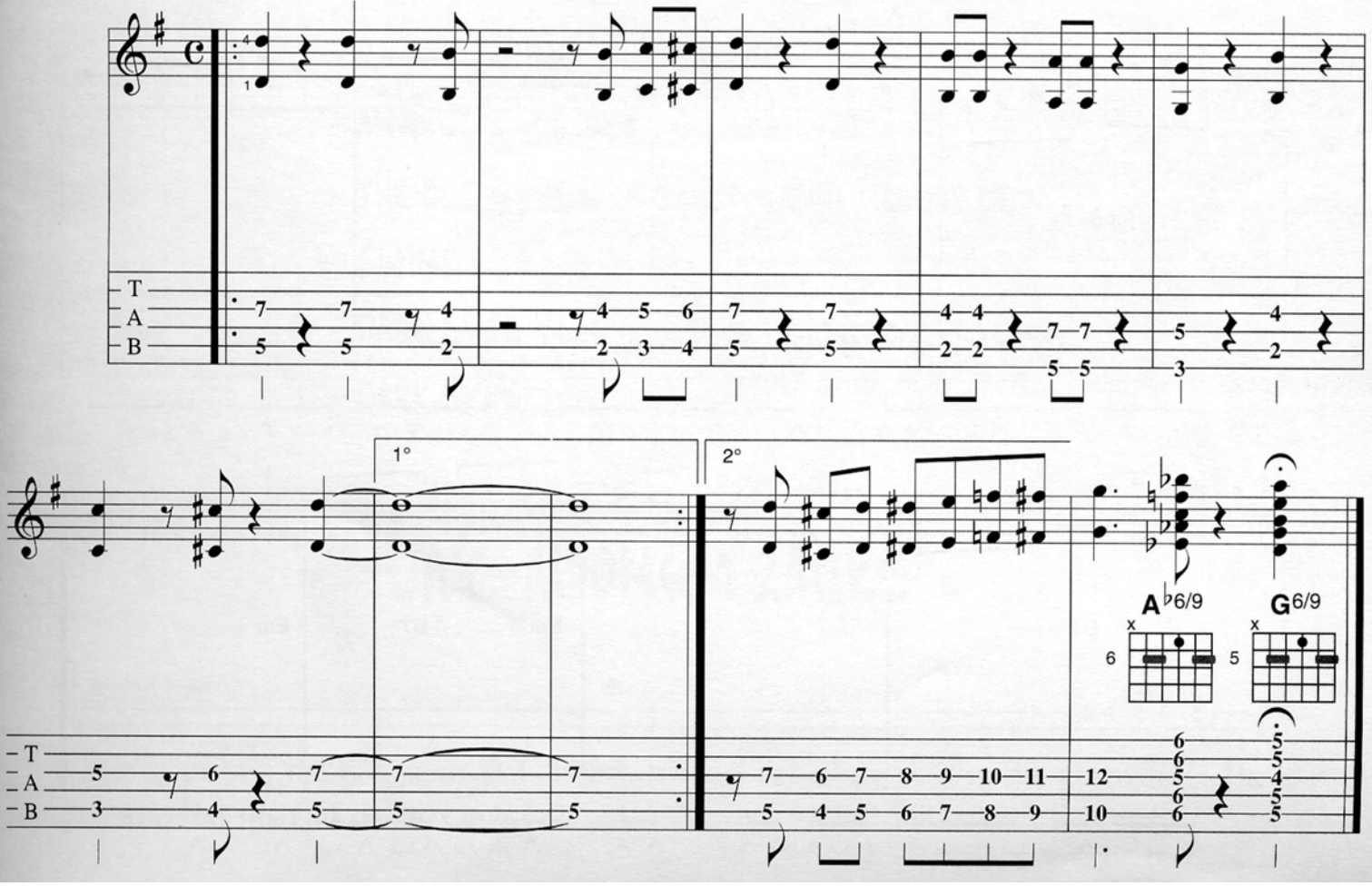
Playing solo

Octave technique

TRACKS 42 / 43 / 44

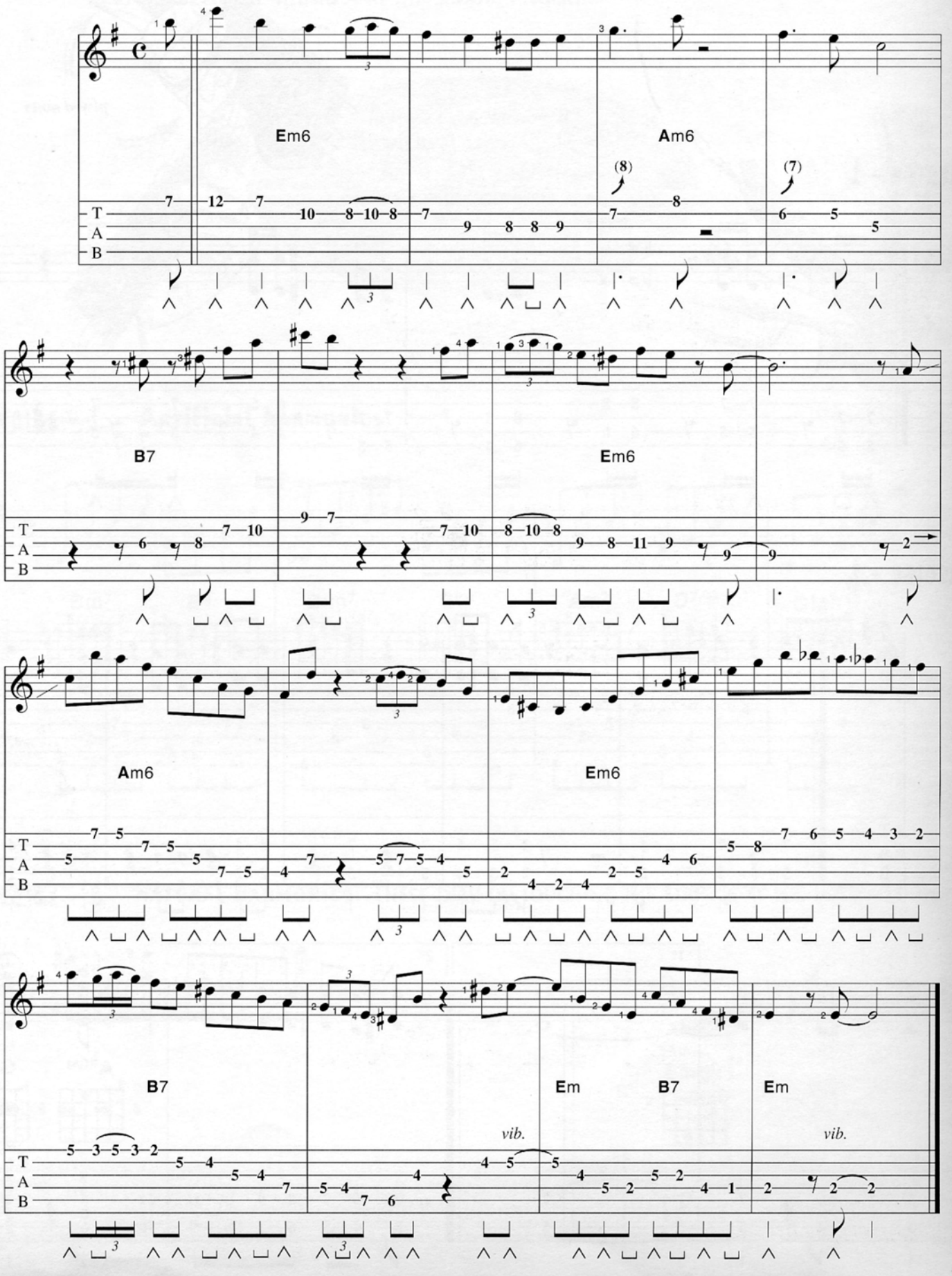
The tricky bit of this much used technique is not playing notes other than the octaves as the right hand strikes the 6 strings.



Exercise - 1

Exercise - 2

Playing solo

Bend / Vibrato / Slide techniques

TRACK 45

We finish part 2 with some techniques that will help you spice up your playing. Note that in the gypsy style the plectrum damps all the downward strikes. When changing strings always beging with a down stroke.

Gypsy guitar The Secrets

volume 1

PART THREE

THE TUNES

- GYPSY SWING (SWING GITAN)
- ANGELO'S WALTZ (ANGELO VALSE)
- THE OLD GYPSY (LE VIEUX TZIGANE) GUITAR ONLY
- SWING 2003
- DARK EYES (LES YEUX NOIRS) GUITAR ONLY VERSION
- DARK EYES (LES YEUX NOIRS)

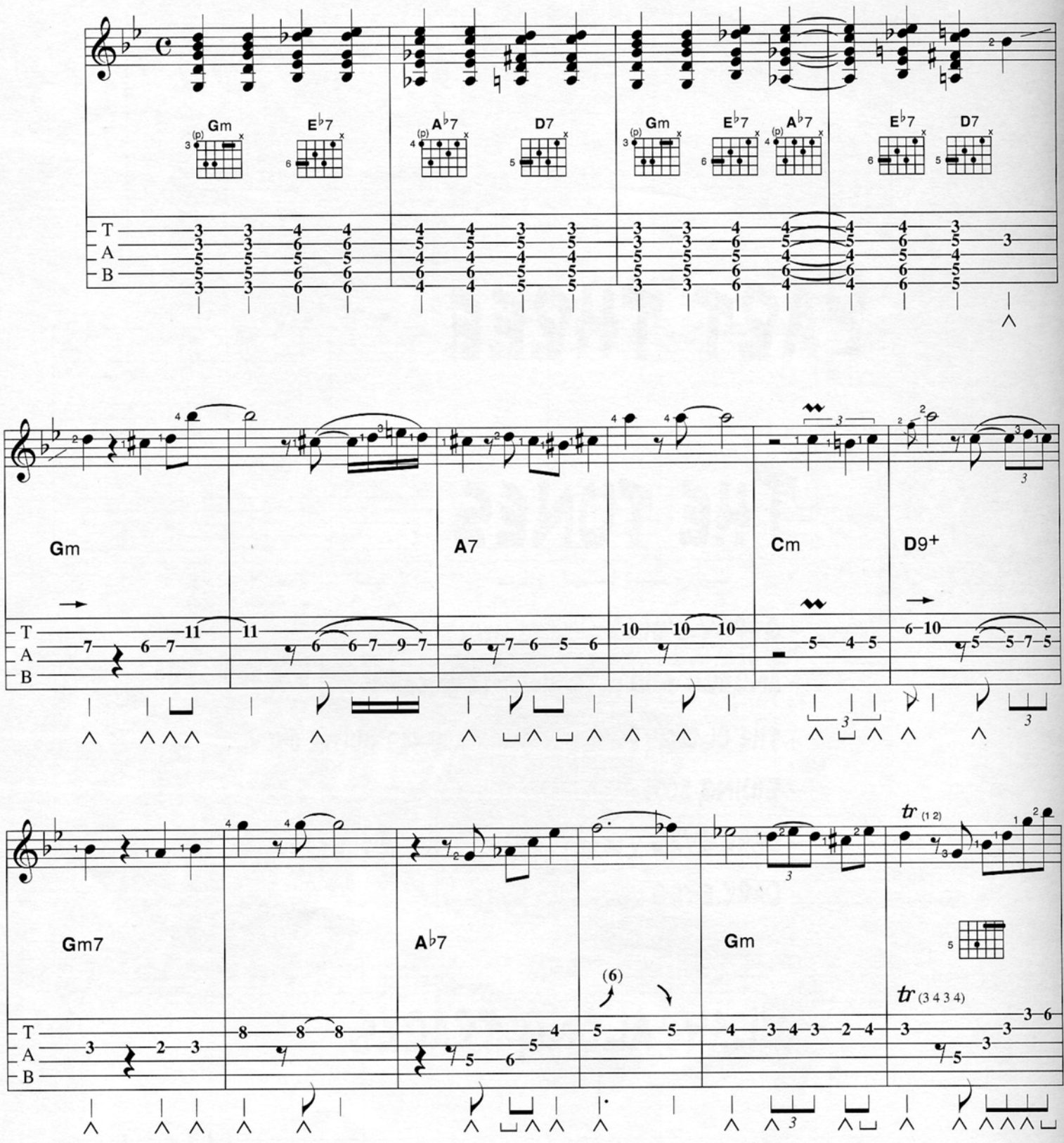
PLAY-ALONG TRACKS

For all these pieces, the fingering and chords marked are those used in the recording. There is a simple version at the end of the course.

GYPSY SWING

(SWING GITAN)

TRADITIONAL

A classic gypsy tune. HERE'S ANGELO DEBARRE'S TAKE ON IT.

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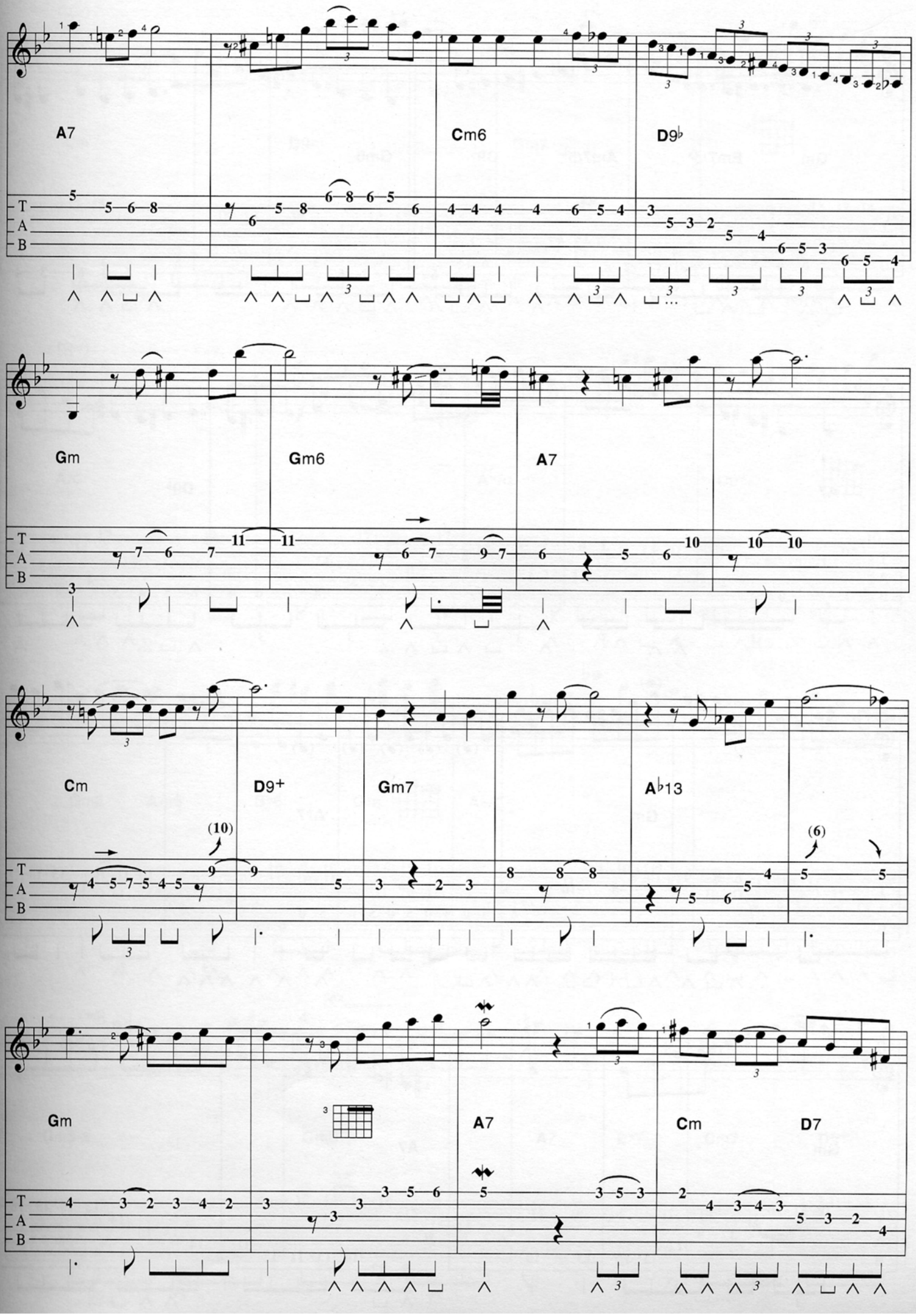
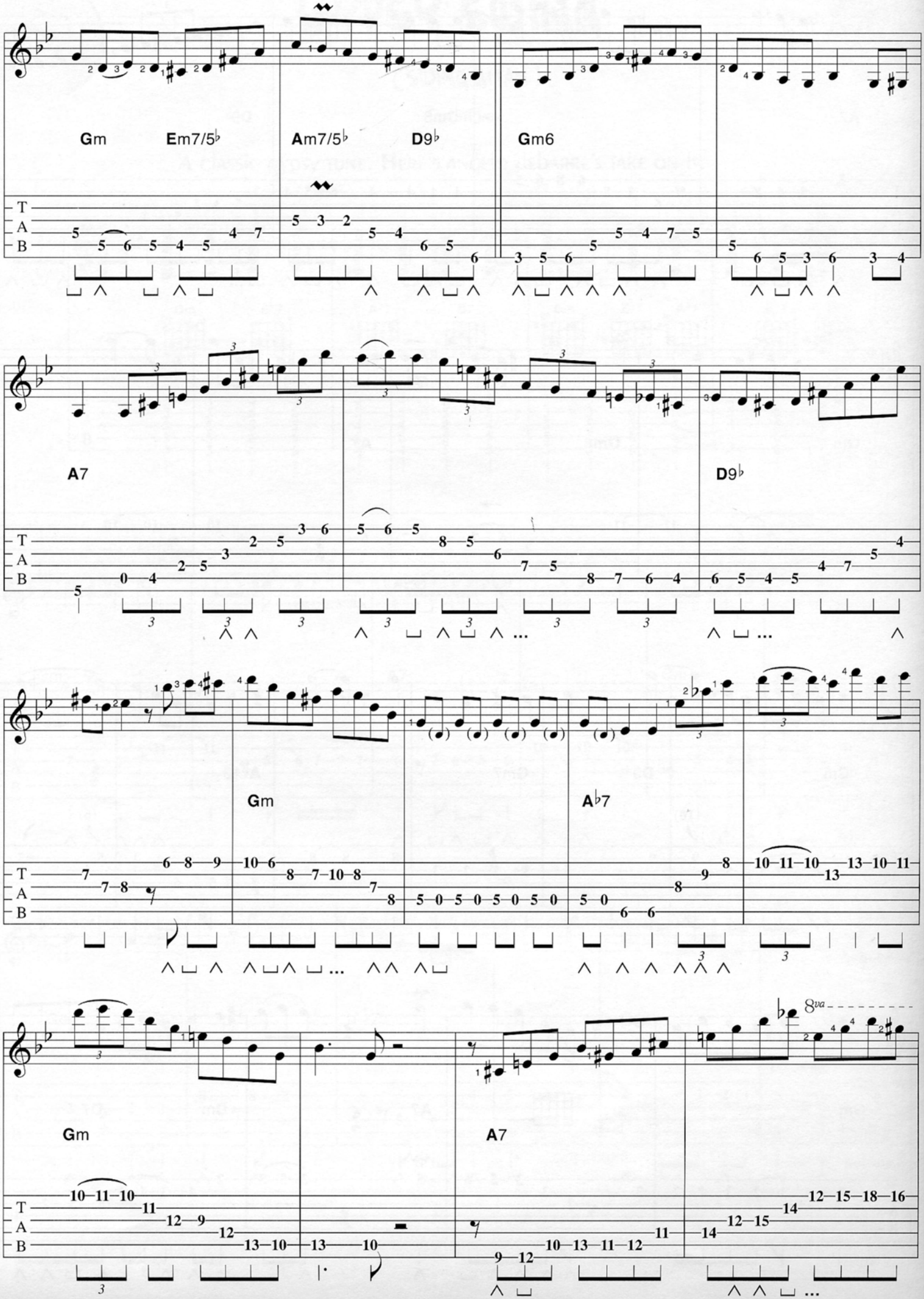
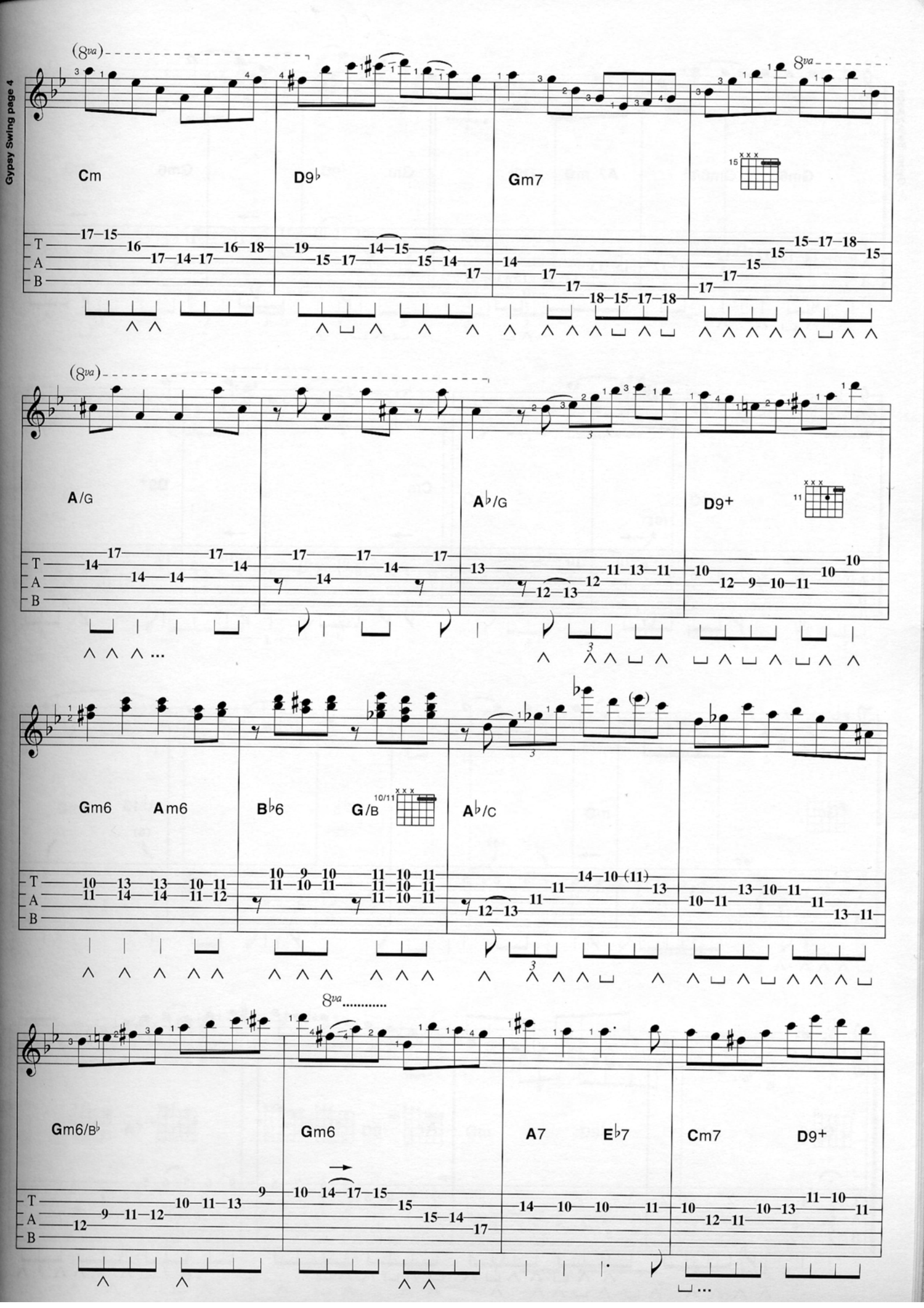
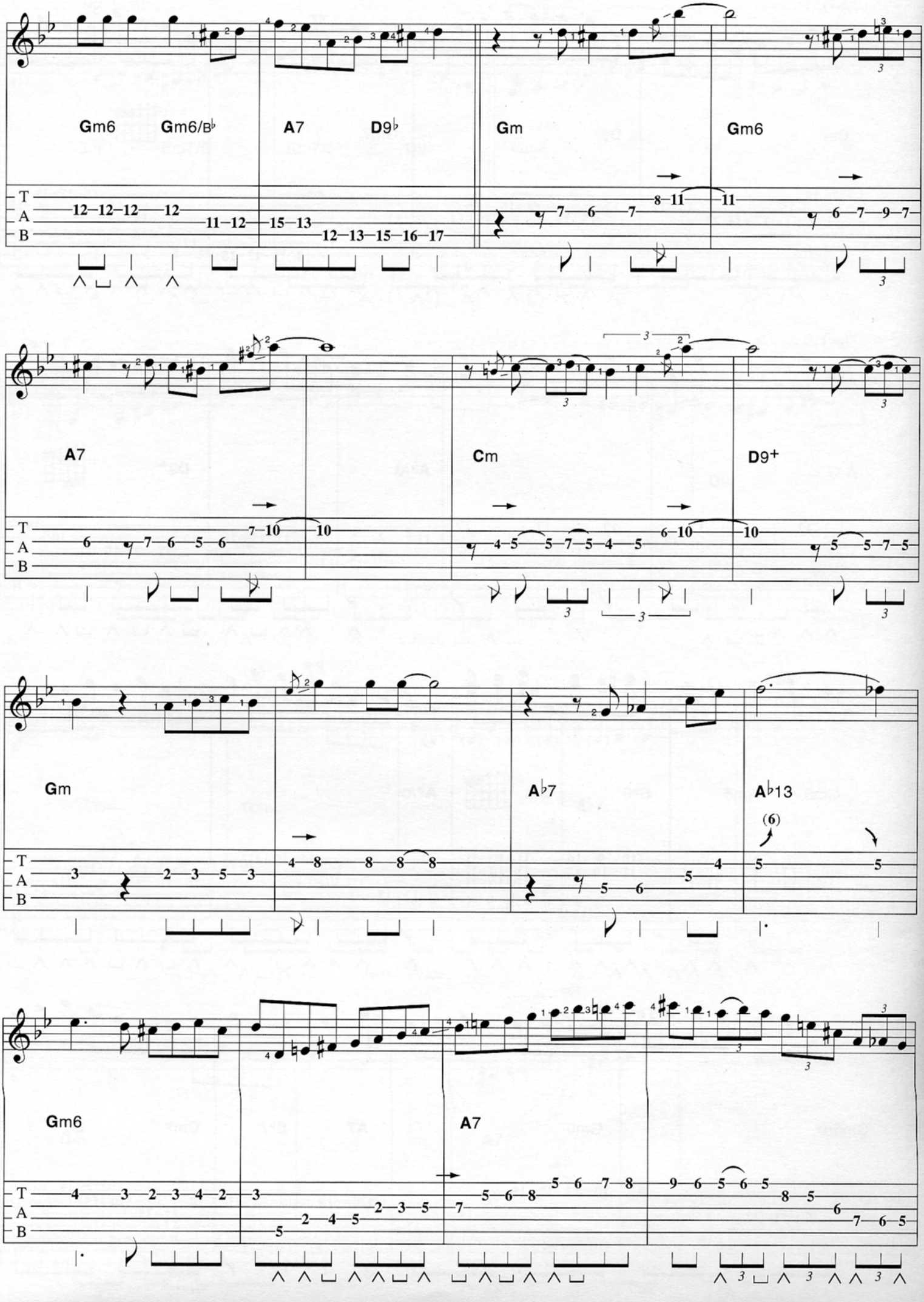
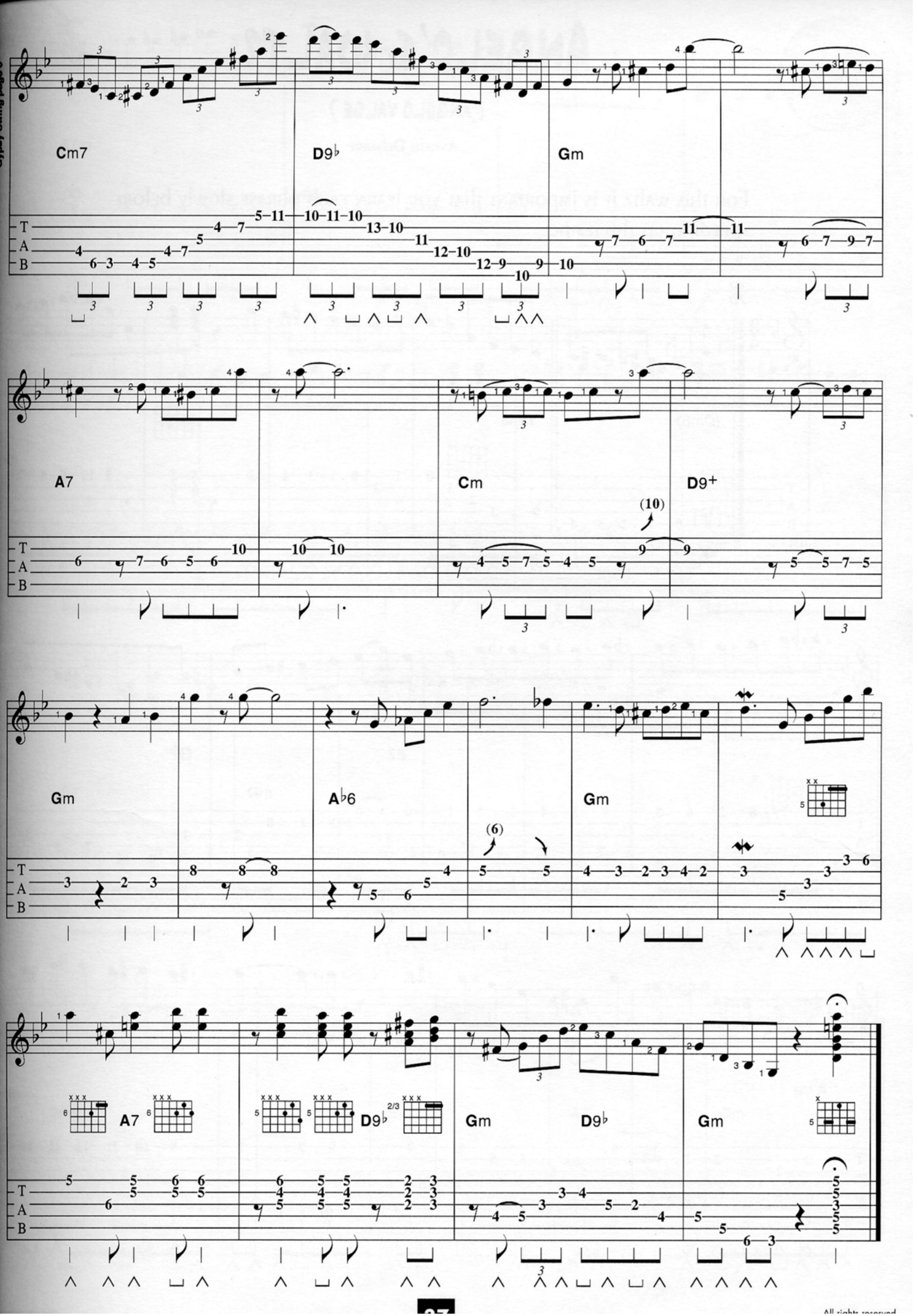

A7
Cm6
D9♭
Gm
Gm6
A7
Cm
D9+
Gm7
A♭13
(10)
(6)
Gm
A7
Cm
D7
T
A
B

Gm
Em7/5♭
Am7/5♭
D9♭
Gm6
A7
D9♭
Gm
A♭7
Gm
A7
8va

(8va)
8va
Cm
D9♭
Gm7
A/G
A♭/G
D9+
Gm6
Am6
B♭6
G/B
A♭/C
8va
Gm6/B♭
Gm6
A7
E♭7
Cm7
D9+

Gm6
Gm6/B♭
A7
D9♭
Gm
Gm6
A7
Cm
D9+
Gm
A♭7
A♭13
(6)
Gm6
A7
T
A
B

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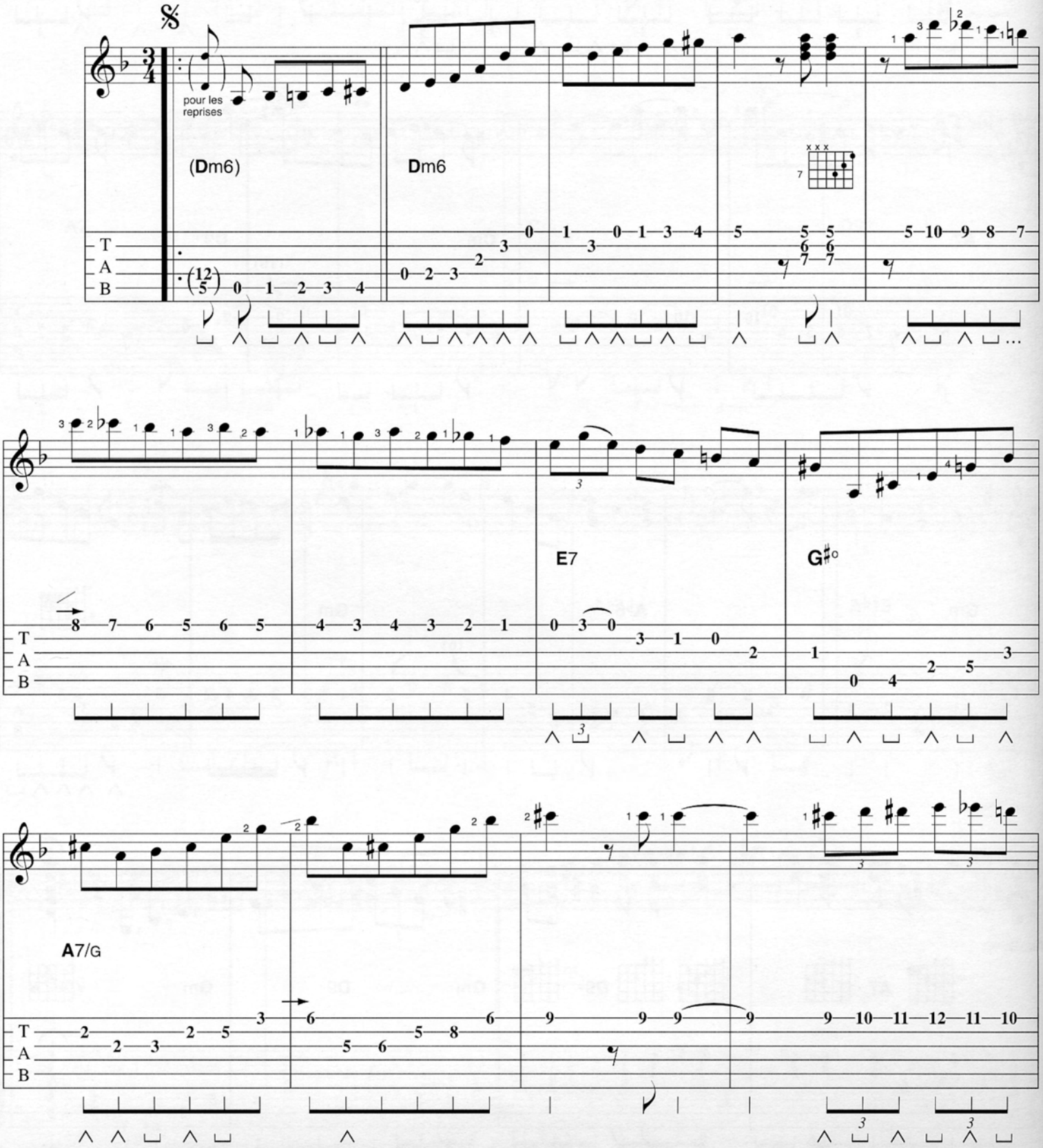
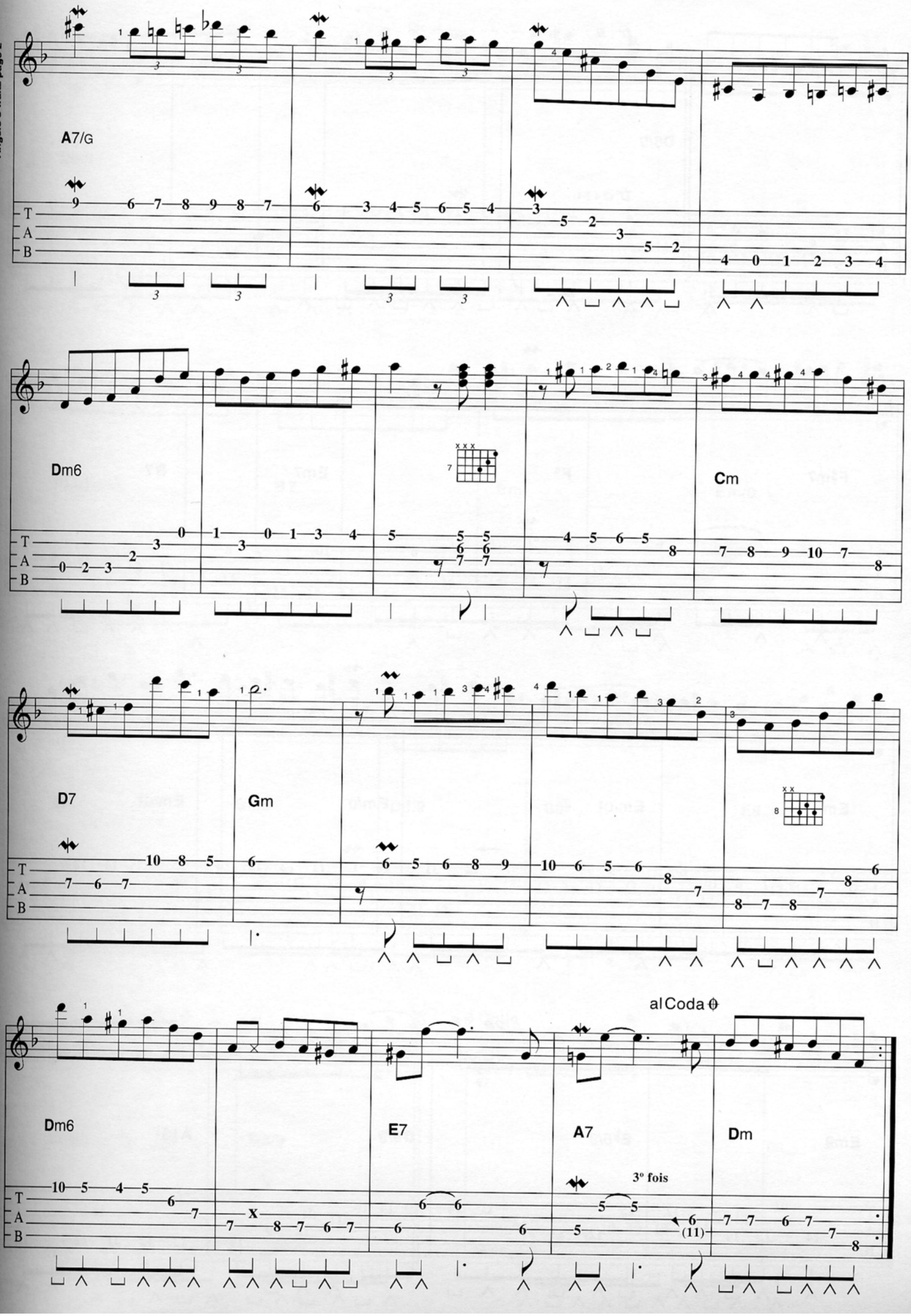
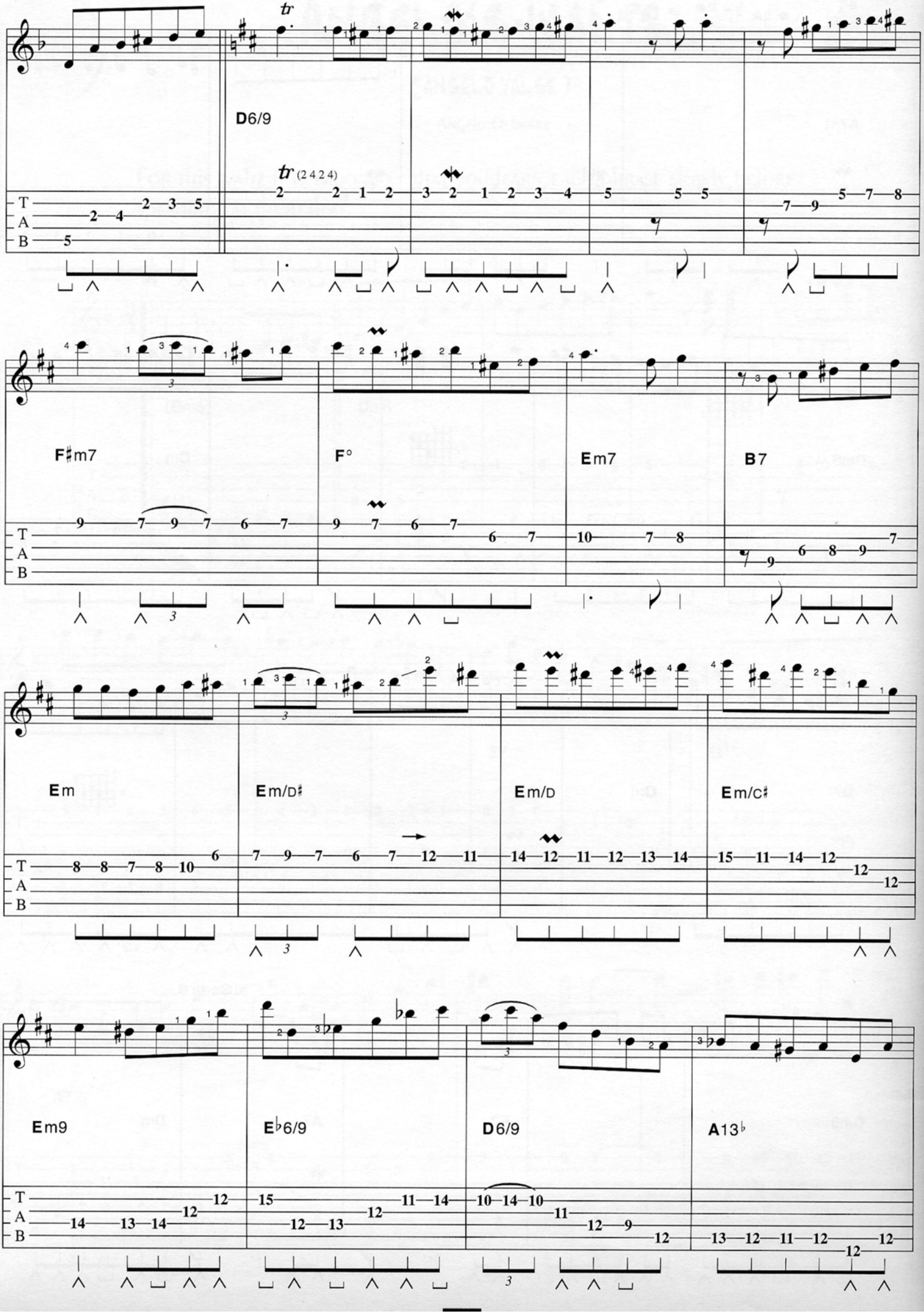
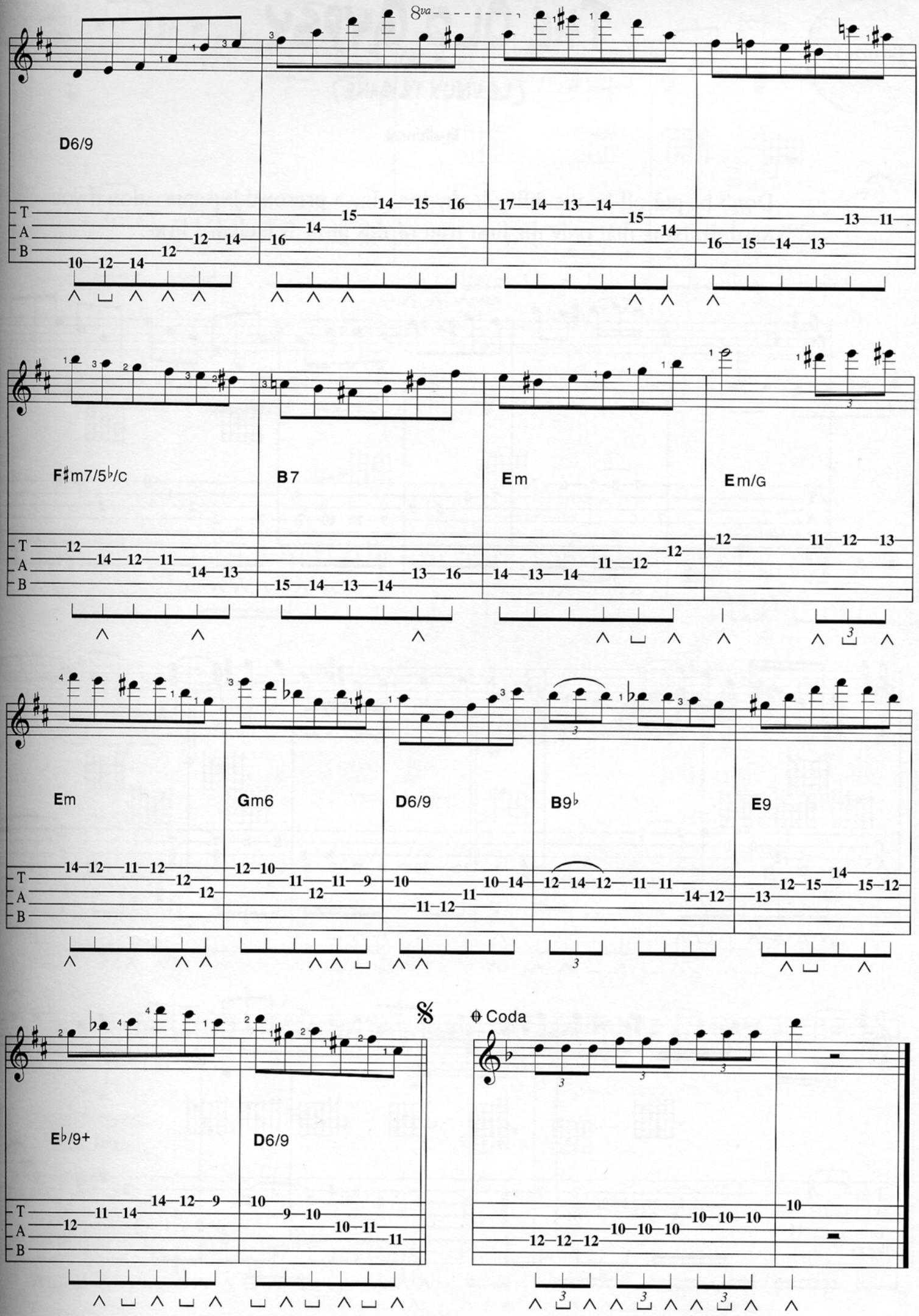
ANGELO'S WALTZ

(ANGELO VALSE)

ANGELO DEBARRE

FOR THIS WALTZ IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU LEARN EACH PHRASE SLOWLY BEFORE SPEEDING UP THE TEMPO.


A7/G
Dm6
Cm
D7
Gm
Dm6
E7
A7
Dm
al Coda
3° fois


D6/9
F♯m7
F°
Em7
B7
Em
Em/D♯
Em/D
Em/C♯
Em9
E♭6/9
D6/9
A13♭

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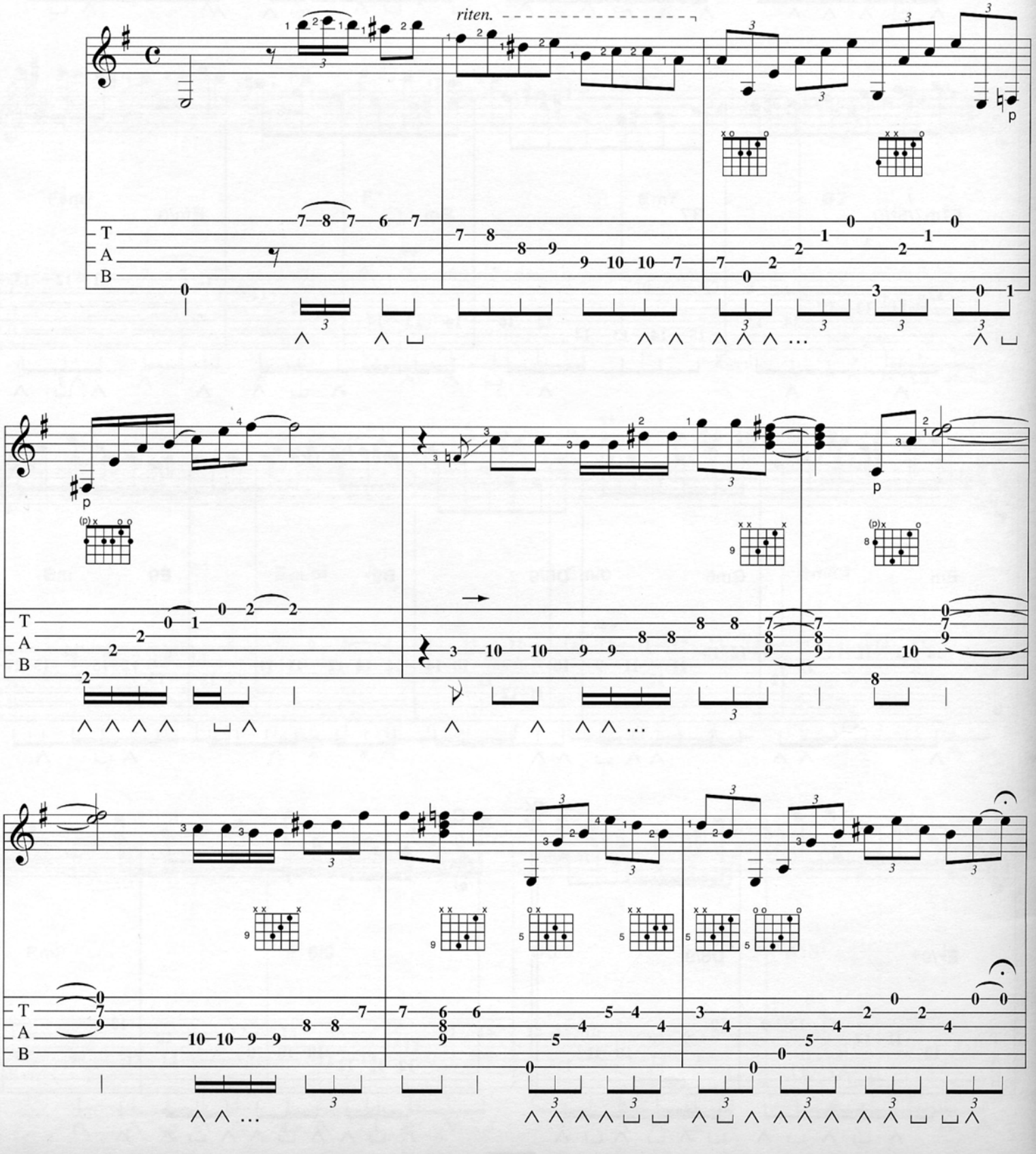
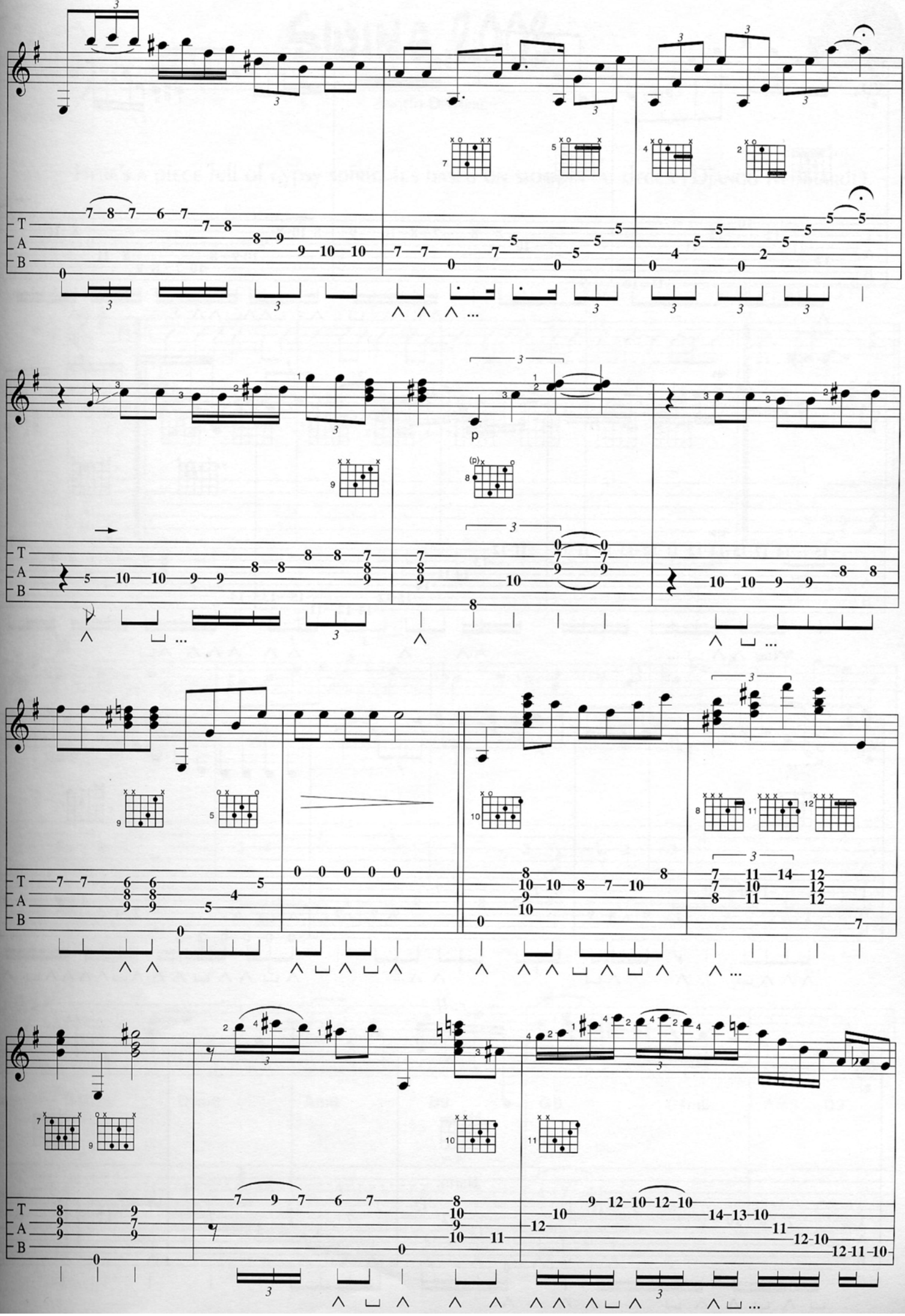
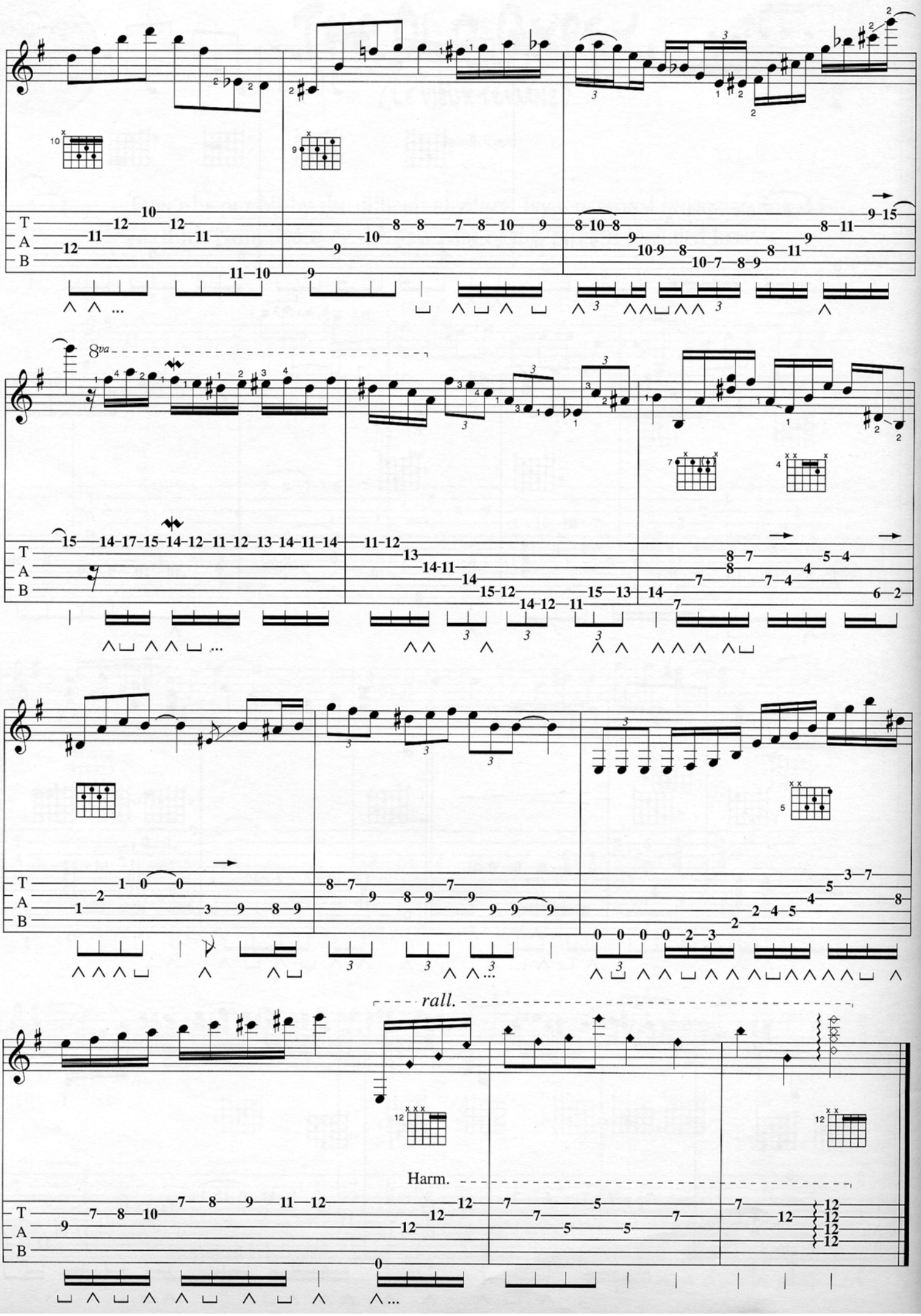
THE OLD GYPSY

(LE VIEUX TZIGANE)

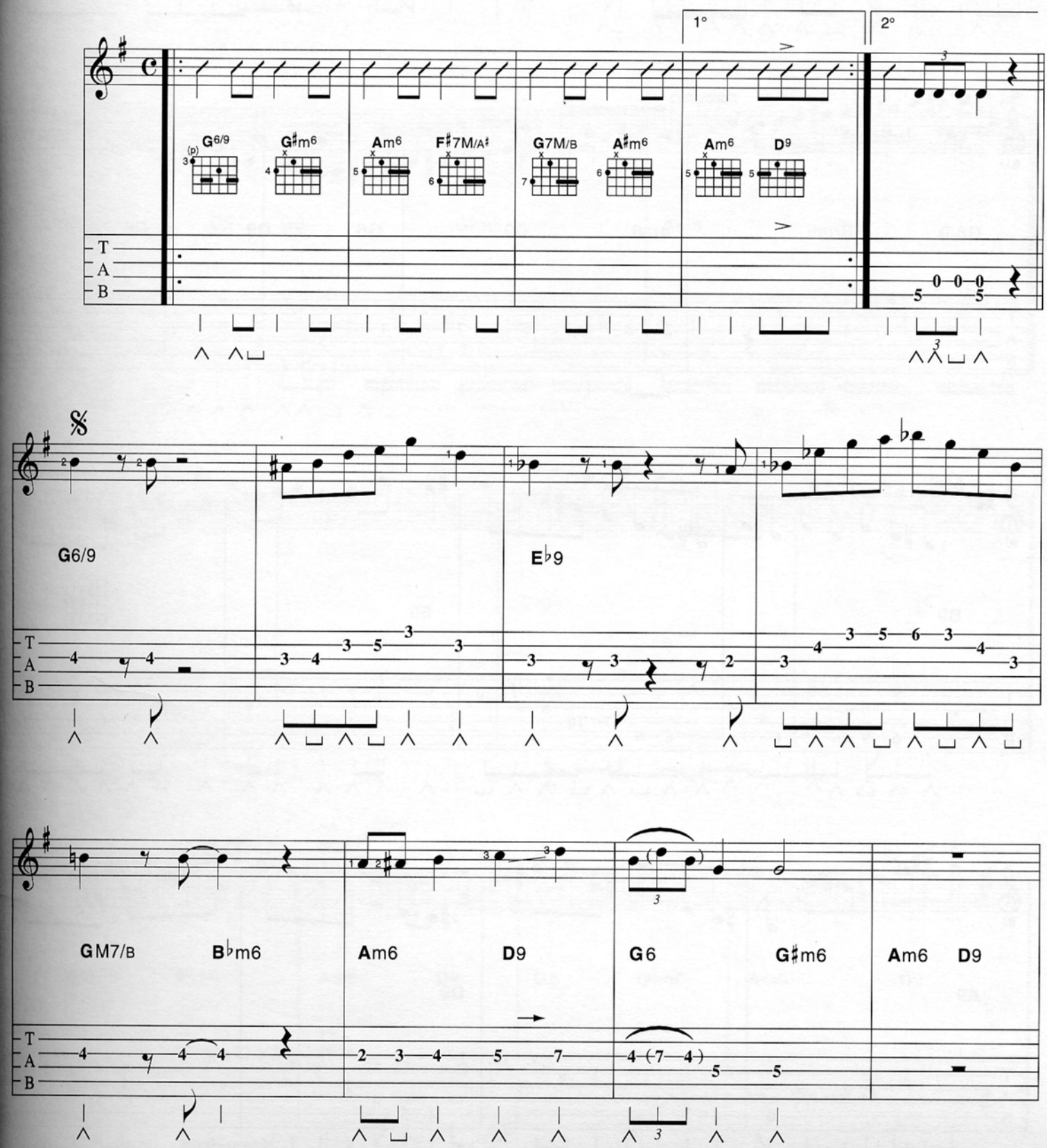
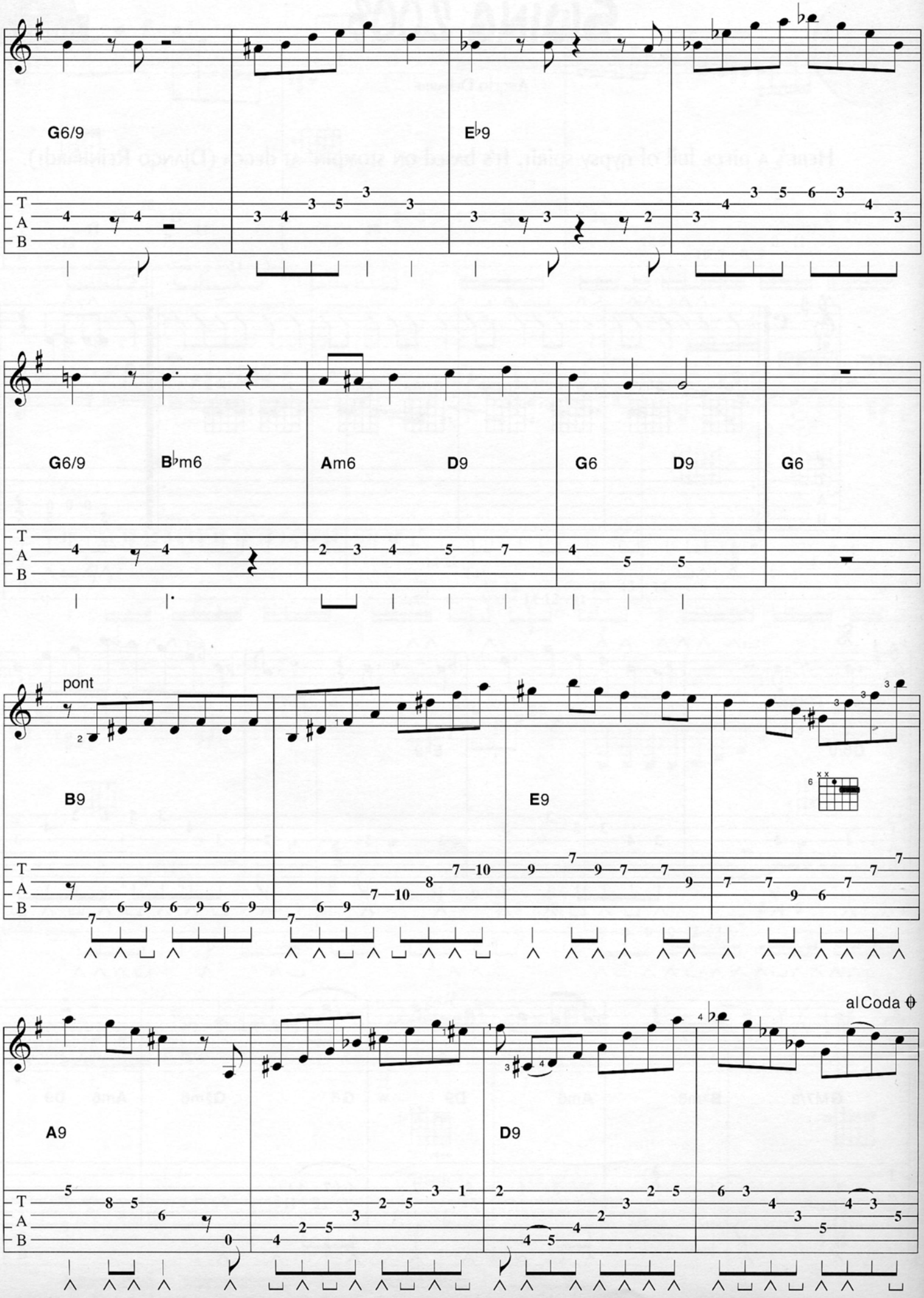
Traditional

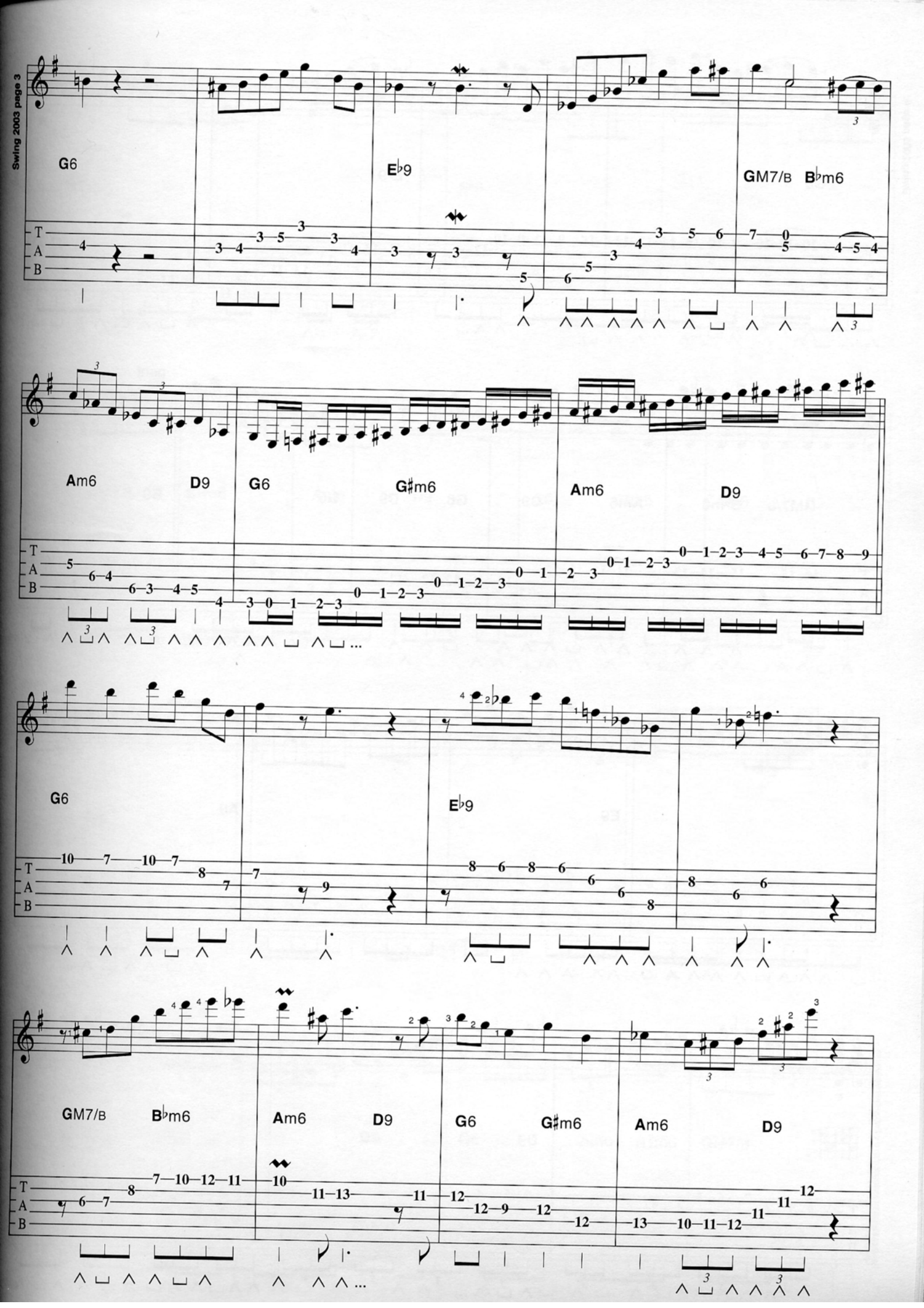
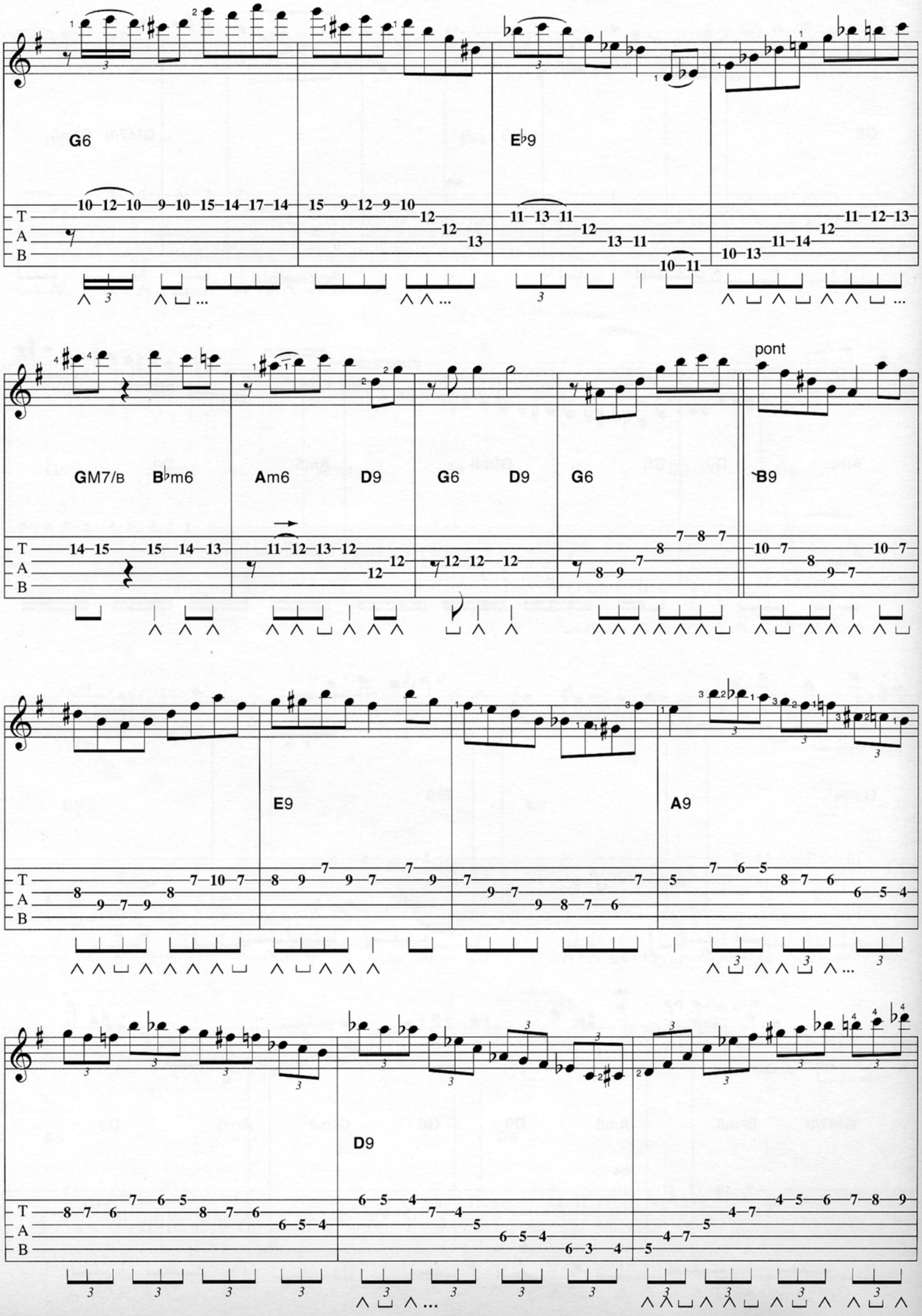
TRACK 4

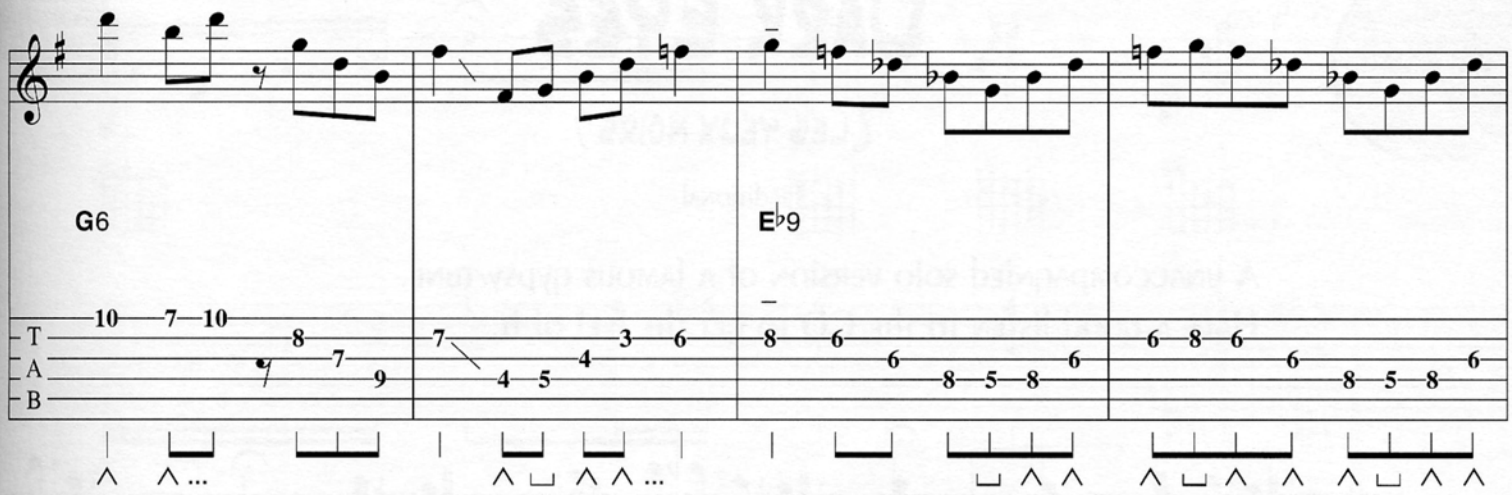
DON'T BE PUT OFF BY THE DIFFICULT RHYTHMS. TRY A PERSONAL INTERPRETATION IF YOU NEED TO. NOTE THAT ONLY THE FIRST PART OF THIS PIECE IS INCLUDED HERE.

8va
rall.
Harm.

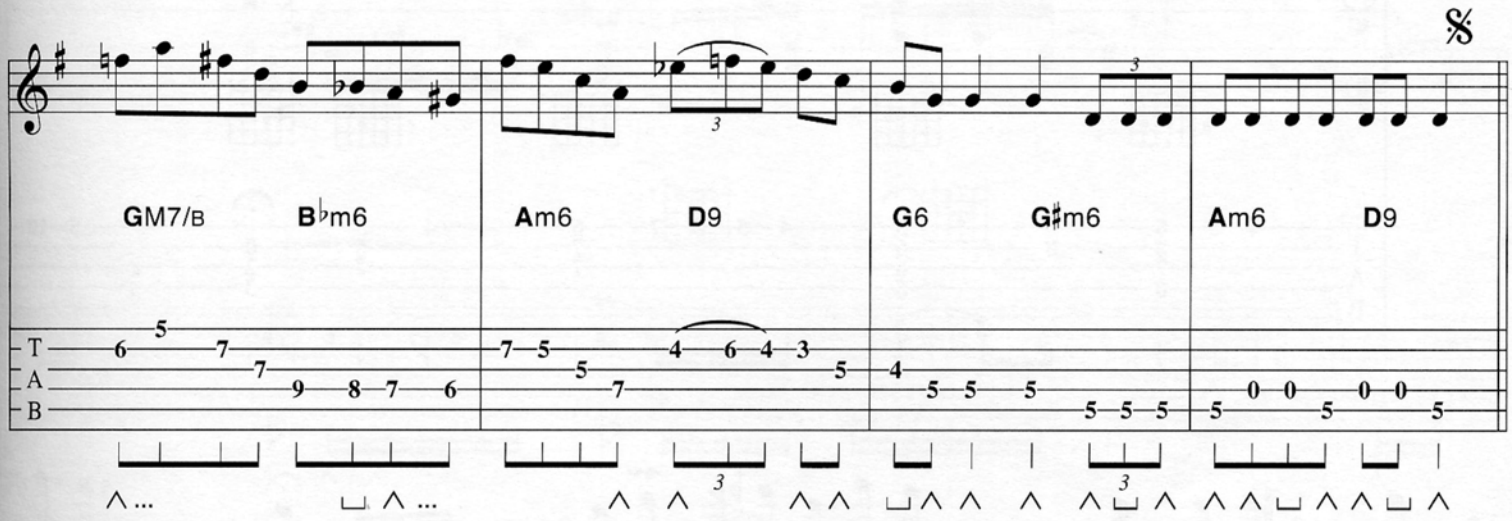
SWING 2003

ANGELO DEBARRE

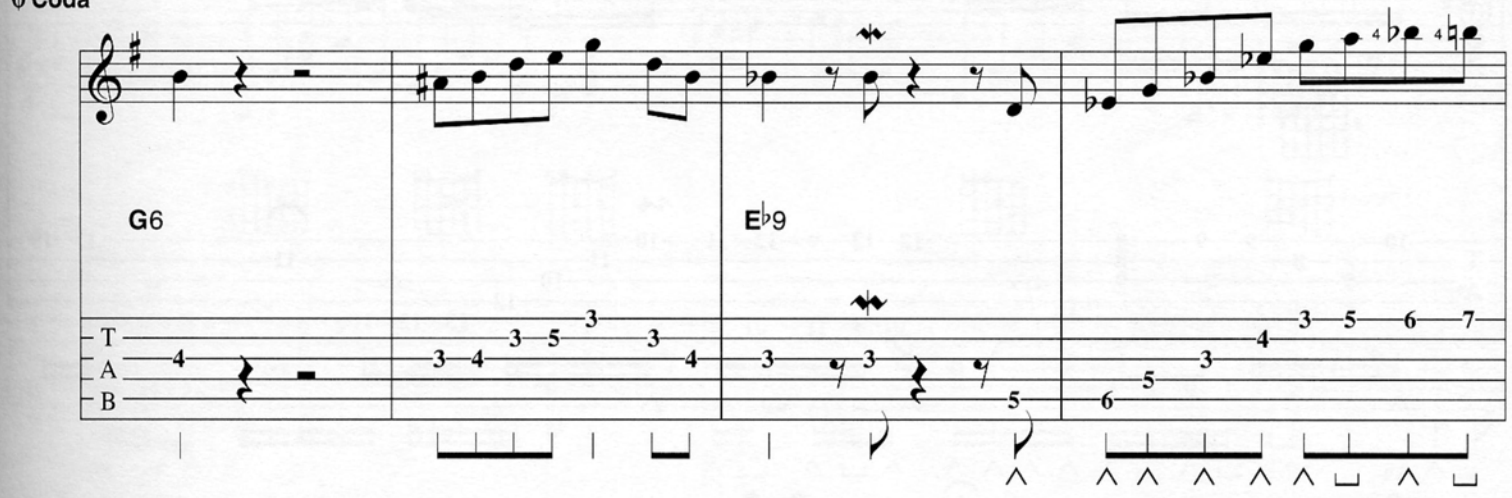
HERE'S A PIECE FULL OF GYPSY SPIRIT. IT'S BASED ON STOMPIN' AT DECCA (DJANGO REINHARDT).

G6/9
E♭9
G6/9
B♭m6
Am6
D9
G6
D9
G6
pont
B9
E9
A9
D9
al Coda

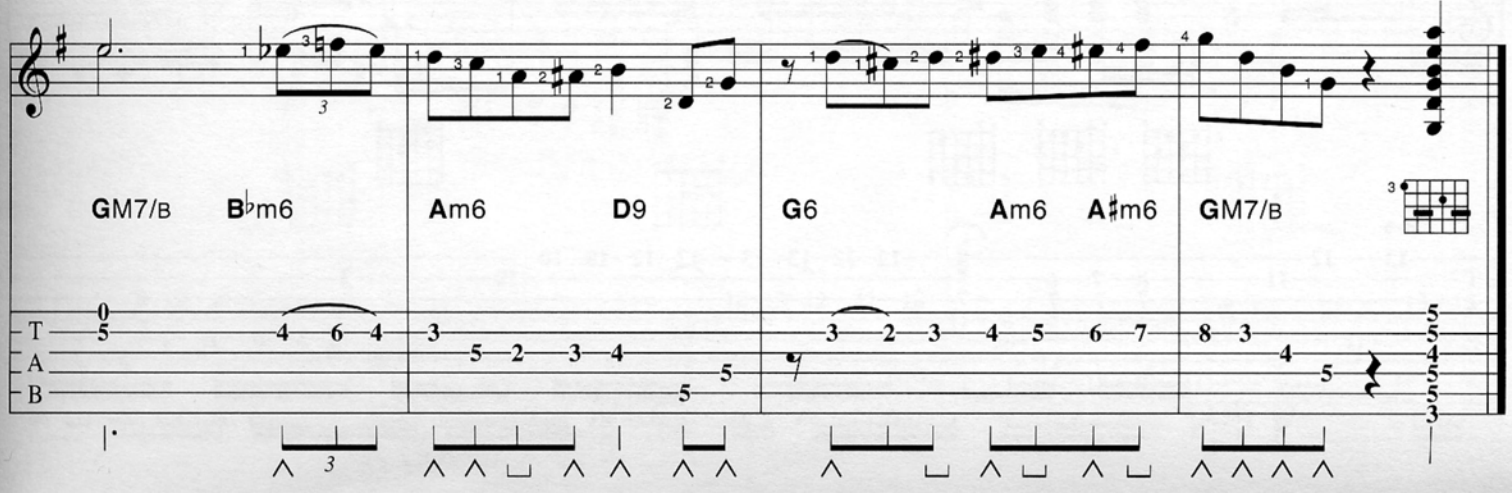

G6
E♭9
GM7/B
B♭m6
Am6
D9
G6
G♯m6
Am6
D9
G6
E♭9
GM7/B
B♭m6
Am6
D9
G6
G♯m6
Am6
D9

G6
E♭9
GM7/B
B♭m6
Am6
D9
G6
D9
G6
pont
B9
E9
A9
D9


G6
E♭9


GM7/B
B♭m6
Am6
D9
G6
G♯m6
Am6
D9

Coda


G6
E♭9

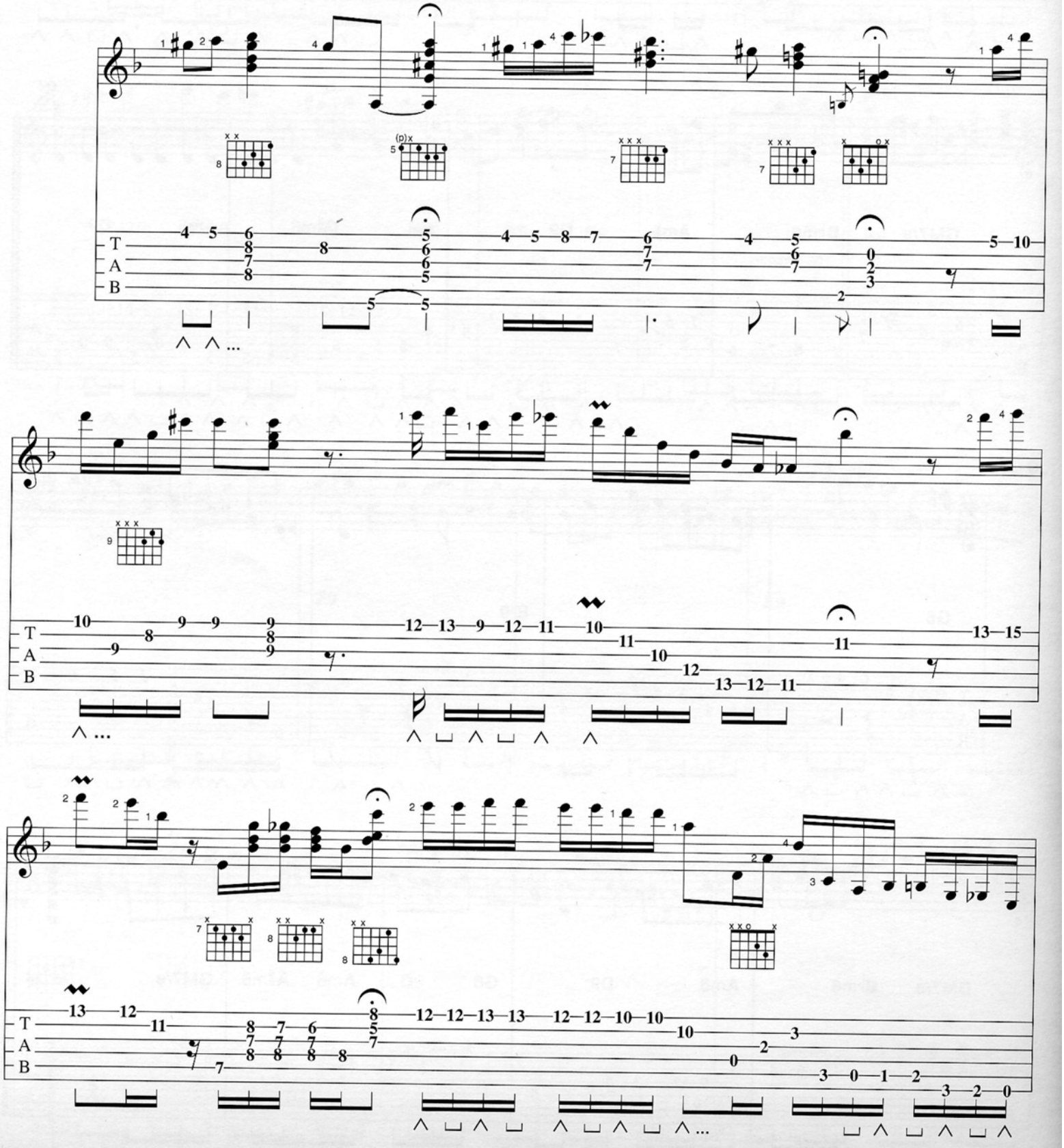
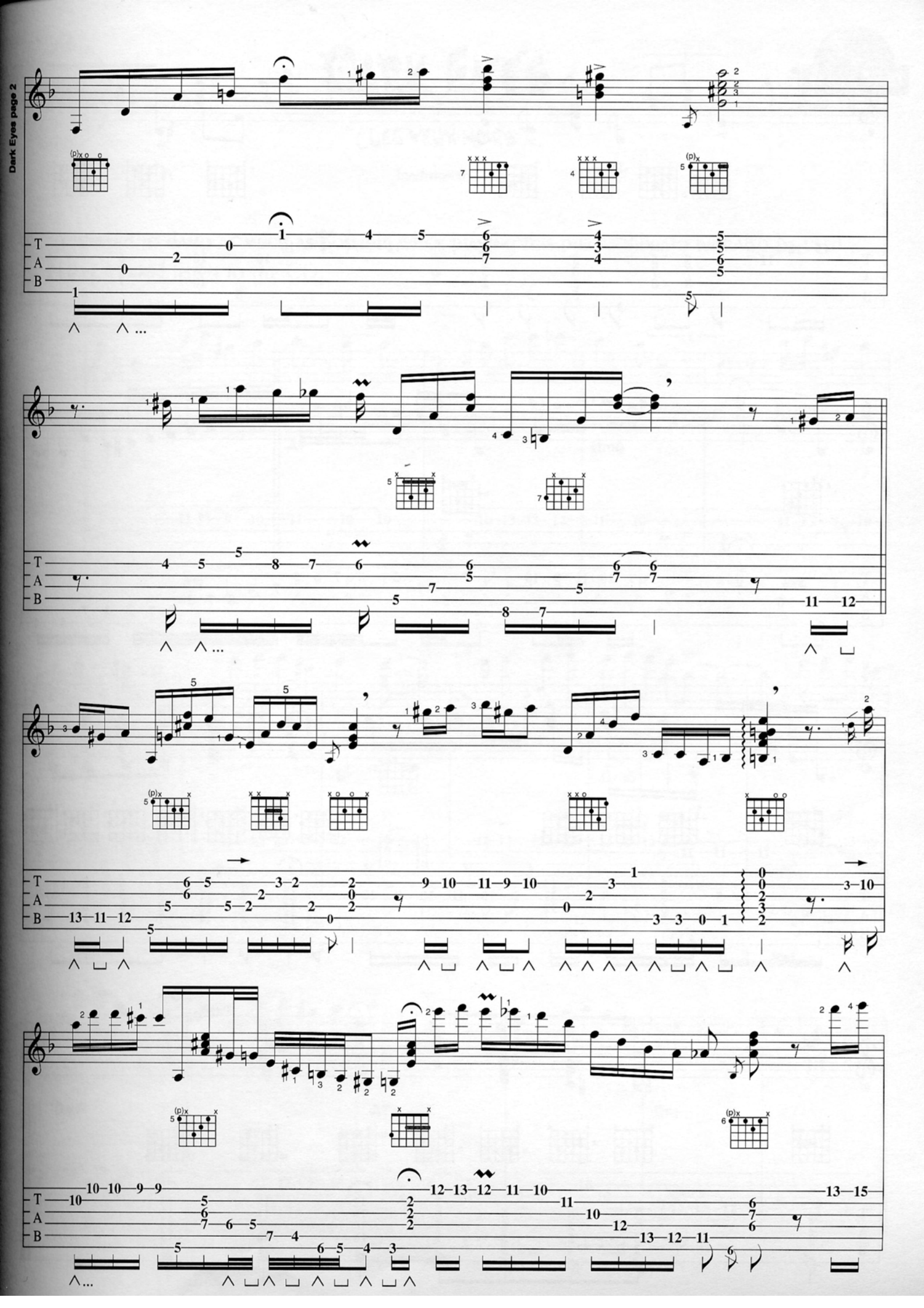
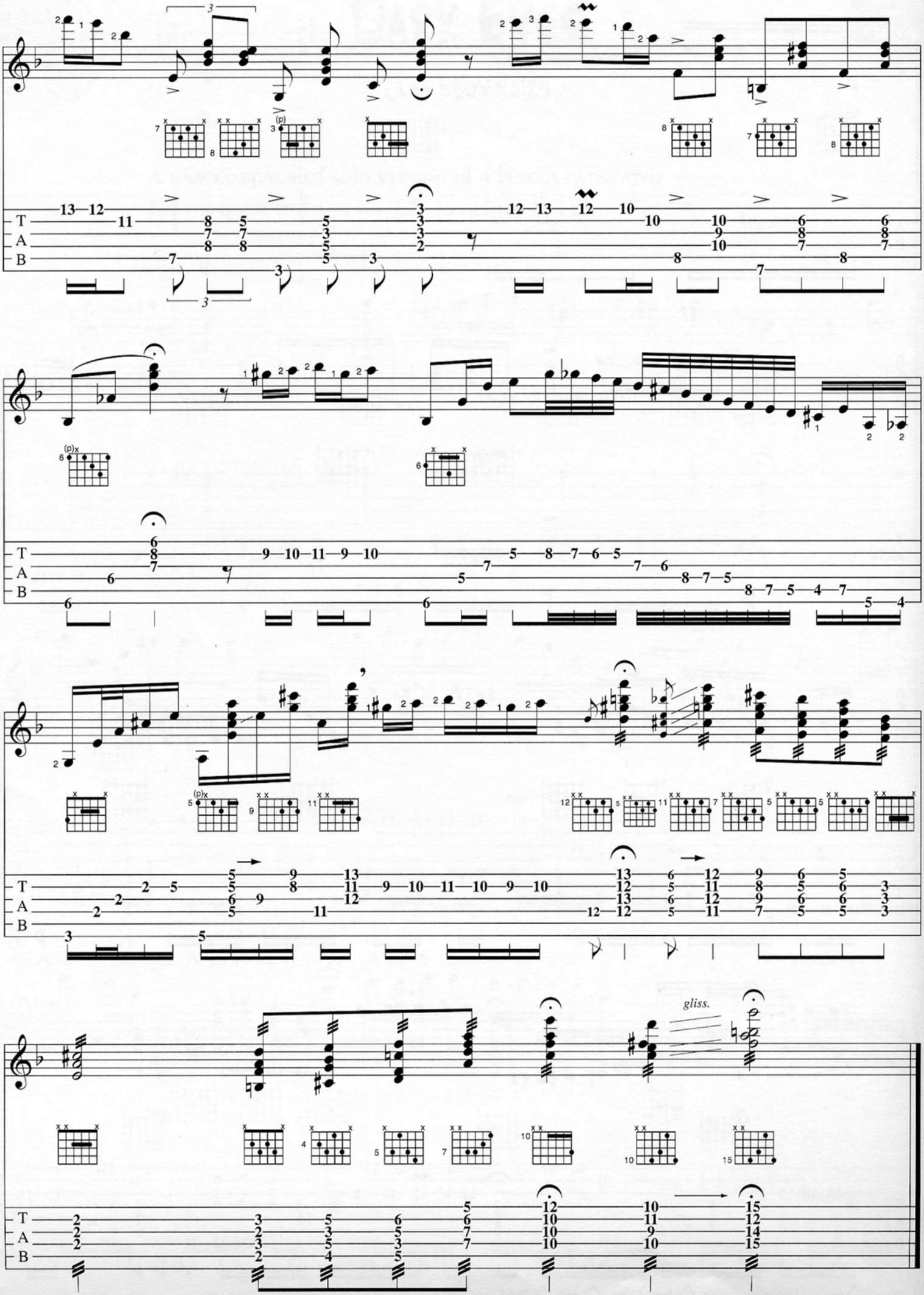

GM7/B
B♭m6
Am6
D9
G6
Am6
A♯m6
GM7/B

DARK EYES

(LES YEUX NOIRS)

TRADITIONAL

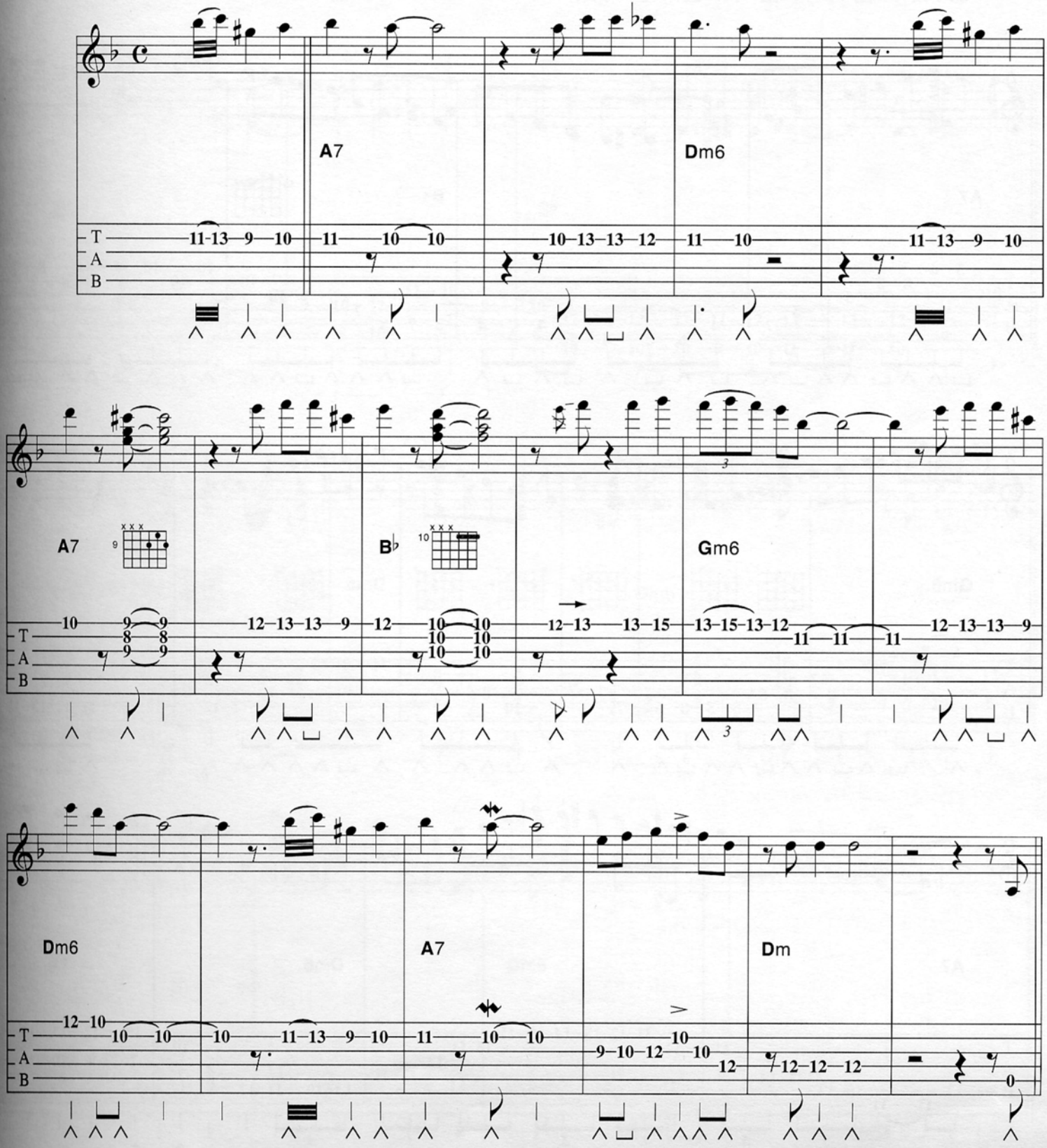
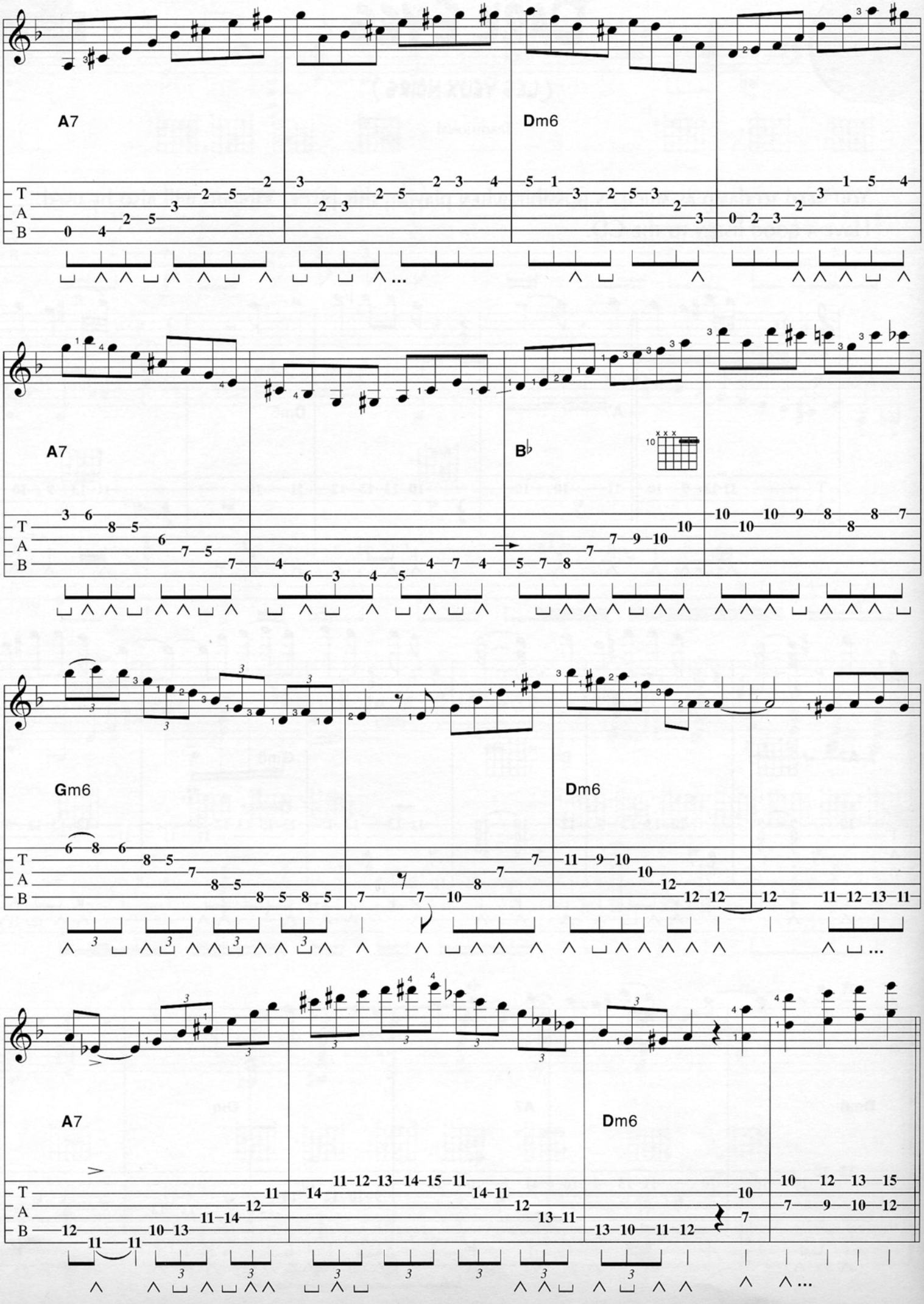
TRACK 6

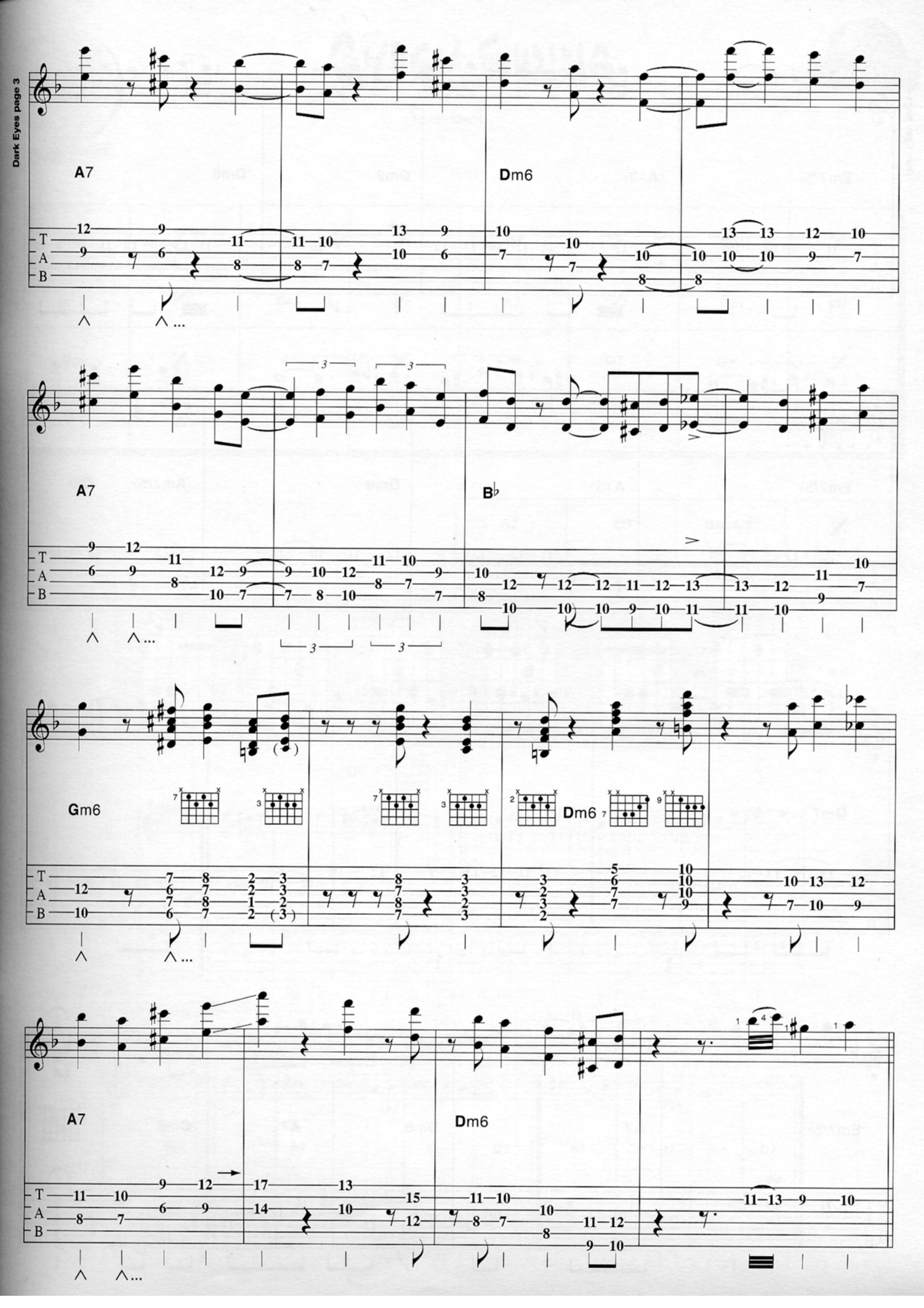
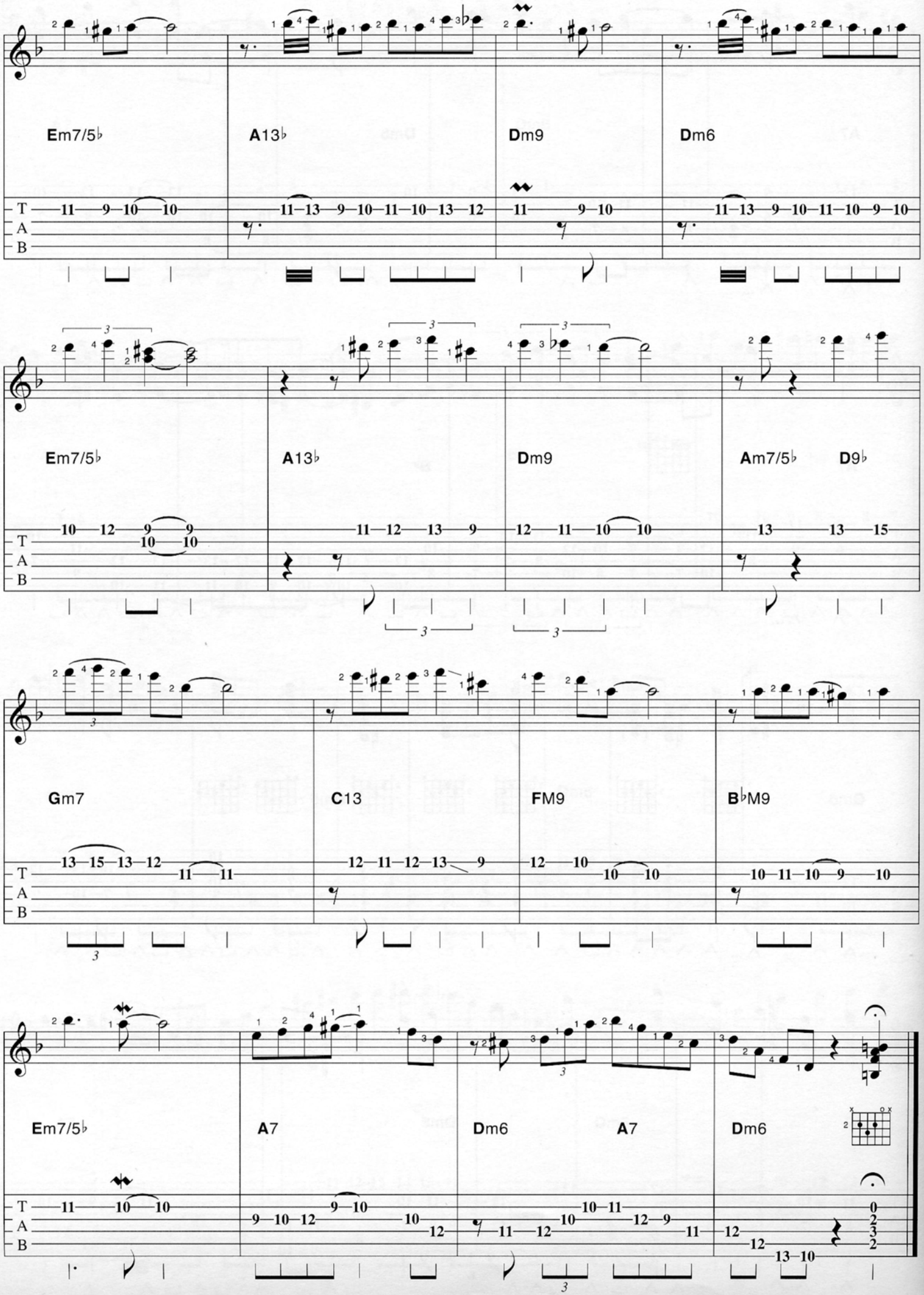
A UNACCOMPAGNIED SOLO VERSION OF A FAMOUS GYPSY TUNE.
HAVE A GOOD LISTEN TO THE CD TO GET THE FEEL OF IT.

gliss.

DARK EYES

(LES YEUX NOIRS)

TRADITIONAL

YOU NEED TO DAMP AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE WHEN PLAYING THIS PIECE. VIBRATO WILL ALSO BE USED. HAVE A GOOD LISTEN TO THE CD.

A7
Dm6
A7
B♭
Gm6
Dm6
A7
Dm6


A7
Dm6
A7
B♭
Gm6
Dm6
A7
Dm6

Em7/5♭
A13♭
Dm9
Dm6
Em7/5♭
A13♭
Dm9
Am7/5♭
D9♭
Gm7
C13
FM9
B♭M9
Em7/5♭
A7
Dm6
A7
Dm6
T
A
B

play-along stracks

simple version

Gypsy Swing

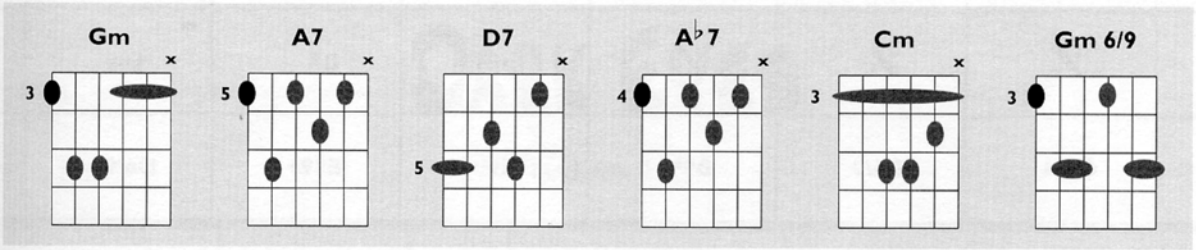
TRACKS 46 / 47

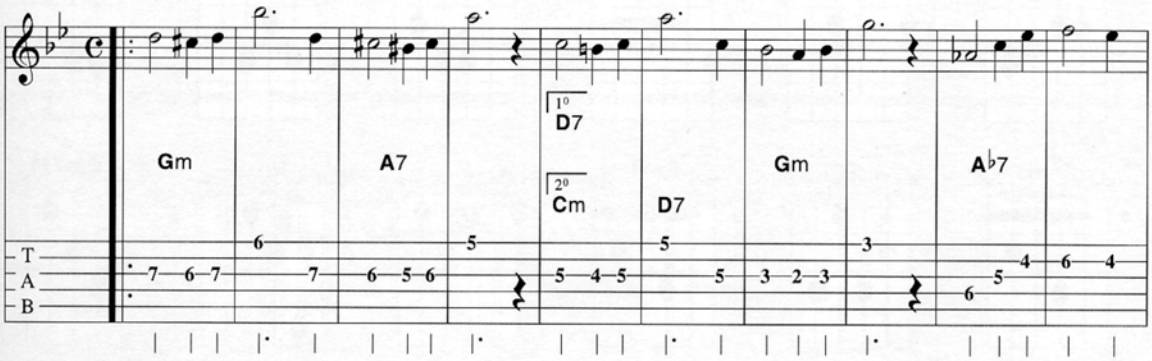
Traditional

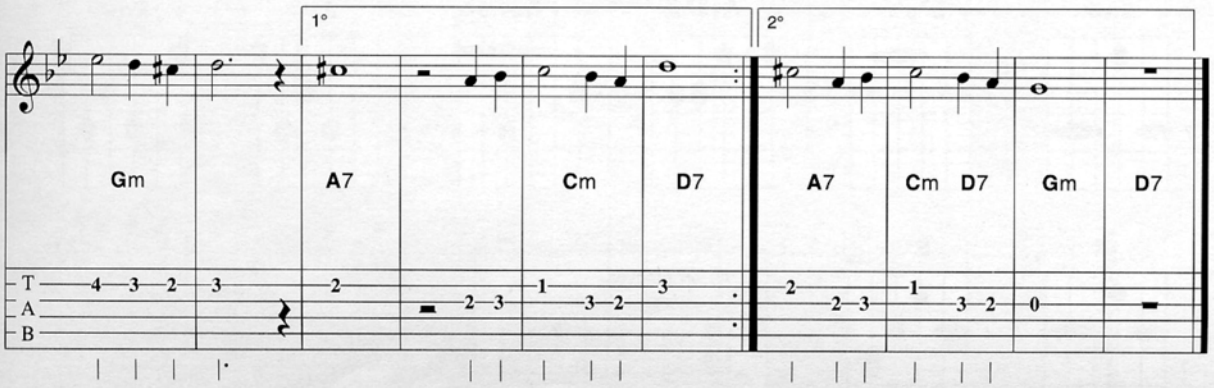
Gm	𝄎	A7	𝄎	D7	𝄎	Gm	𝄎
A♭7	𝄎	Gm	𝄎	A7	𝄎	Cm	D7
Gm	𝄎	A7	𝄎	Cm	D7	Gm	𝄎
A♭7	𝄎	Gm	𝄎	*4e fois al coda* ⊕ A7	Cm / D7	Gm	D7

⊕ *Coda*

A7	D7	Gm 6/9	𝄎







play-along stracks

simple version

Angelo's walse

TRACK 4

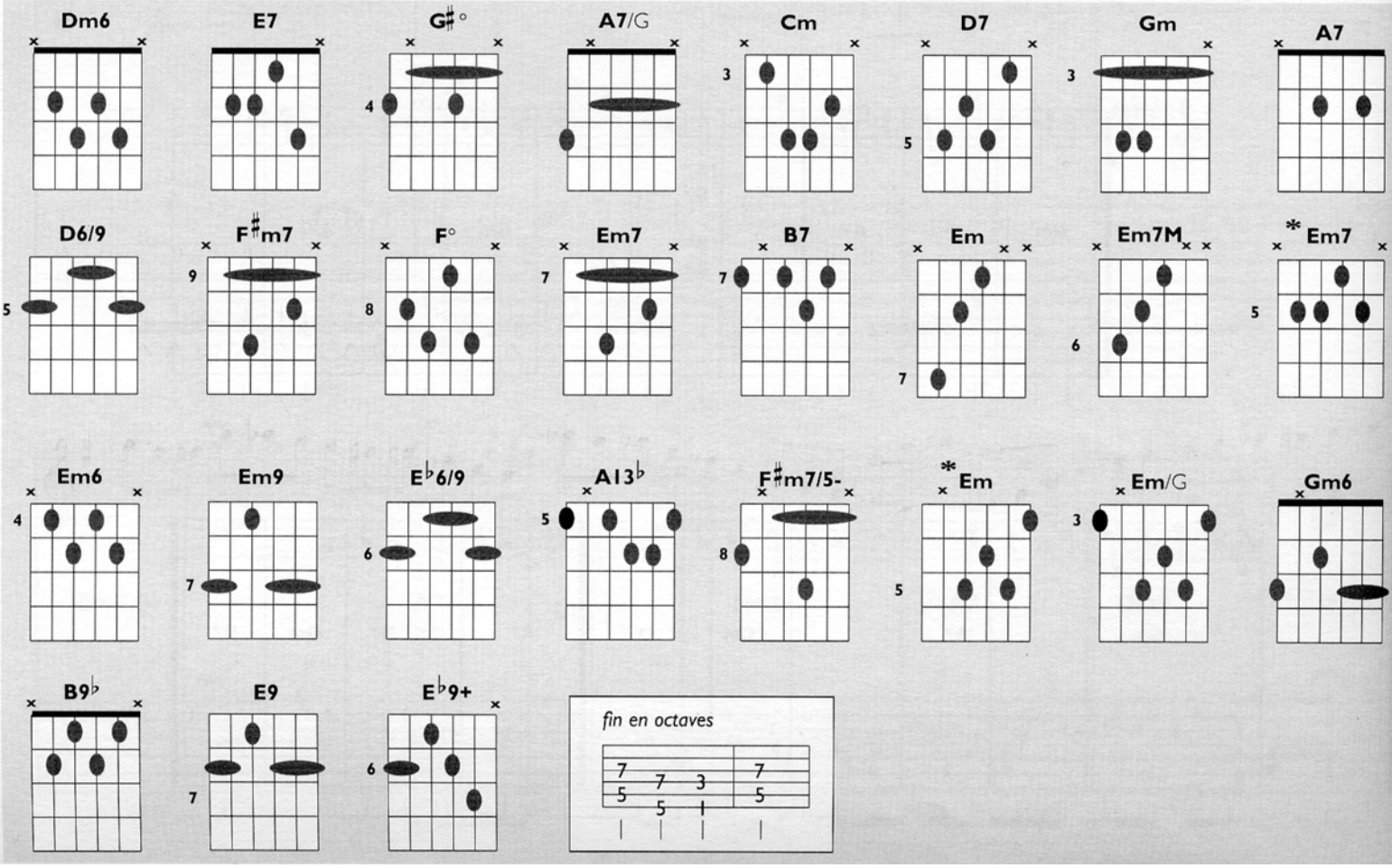
Angelo Debarre

A

Dm6	𝄎	𝄎	𝄎	𝄎	𝄎	E7	G♯°
A7/G	𝄎	𝄎	𝄎	𝄎	𝄎	𝄎	𝄎
Dm6	𝄎	𝄎	𝄎	Cm	D7	Gm	𝄎
Gm	𝄎	Dm6	𝄎	E7	A7	3ème fois FIN en octaves Dm6	𝄎

B

D6/9	𝄎	𝄎	𝄎	F♯m7	F °	Em7	B7
Em	Em7M	* Em7	Em6	Em9	E♭6/9	D6/9	A13♭
D6/9	𝄎	𝄎	𝄎	F♯m7/5-	B7	* Em	Em/G
* Em	Gm6	D6/9	B9♭	E9	E♭9+	D6/9	A13♭



play-along tracks

simple version

Swing 2003

TRACKS 49 / 50

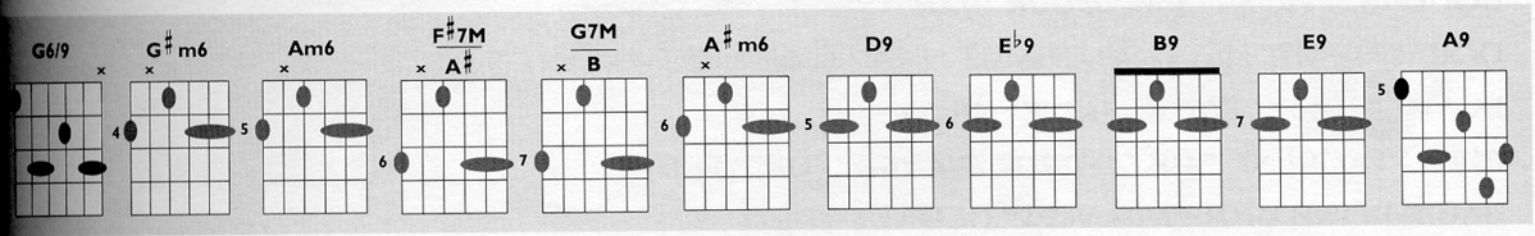
Angelo Debarre

Intro

G6/9 / G♯m6	Am6 / F♯7M/A♯	G7M/B / A♯m6	Am6 / D9

Plays A A B A

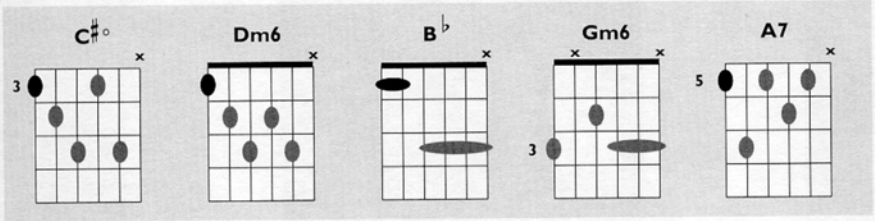
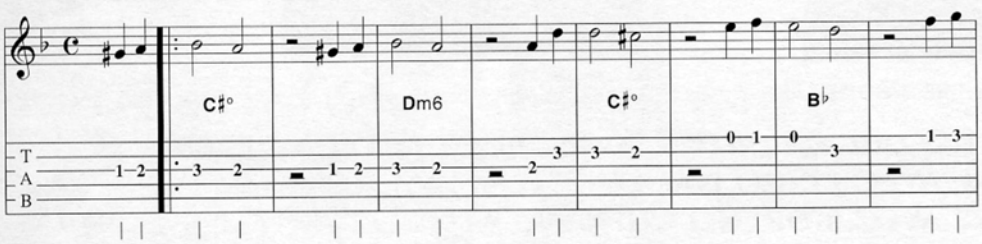
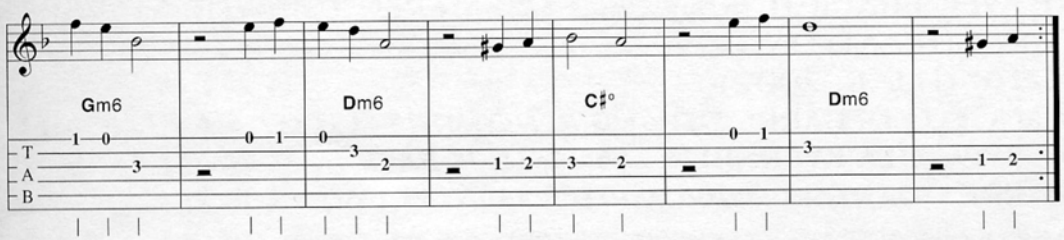
G6/9	𝄎	E♭9	𝄎	G7M/B A♯m6	Am6 / D9	G6/9 / G♯m6	Am6 / D9
G6/9	𝄎	E♭9	𝄎	G7M/B A♯m6	Am6 / D9	G6/9 / D9	G6/9
B9	𝄎	E9	𝄎	A9	𝄎	D9	𝄎



Dark Eyes

Traditional

C♯°	𝄎	Dm6	𝄎	C♯°	𝄎	B♭	𝄎
Gm6	𝄎	Dm6	𝄎	C♯°	A7	Dm6	𝄎



Discography

REINHARDT/GRAPPELLY *"SOUVENIR"* (DECCA)
DJANGO REINHARDT *"PECHE A LA MOUCHE"* (VERVE)
JOSEPH REINHARDT *"LIVE IN PARIS"* (HOT CLUB RECORDS)
BARO FERRET *"SWING VALSES D'HIER ET D'AUJOURD'HUI"* (H.C.R)
HENRI CROLLA *"NOTRE AMI DJANGO"* (VEGA)
STEPHANE GRAPPELY *"FEELING + FINESSE= JAZZ"* (ATLANTIC)
CATHERINE, ESCOUDE, LOCKWOOD *"TRIO"* (JMS)
RAPHAEL FAYS *"VOYAGE"* (RECORDU)
MARTIN TAYLOR *"DON'T FRETT"* (LINN RECORDS)
ROSEMBERG TRIO *"CARAVAN"* (POLYDOR)
FAPY LAFERTIN *"SWING GUITARS"* (LE JAZZ)
BOULOU, ELIOS FERRÉ *"POUR DJANGO"* (STEEPLECHASE)
DORADO ET TCHAVALO SCHMITT *"LATCHO DROM"* (VIRGIN)
ROMANE *"ACOUSTIC QUARTET"* (IRIS)
BIRELI LAGRENE *"MY FAVORITE DJANGO"* (DREYFUS)
BABIK REINHARDT *"NUANCES"* (R.D.C.)

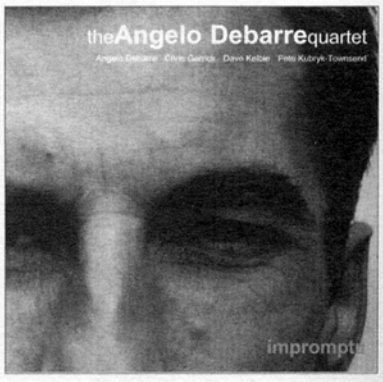
INTERNET SITES

etudestsiganes.asso.fr ----- hotclub.co.uk------ gadjodrom.com

lechodescuilleres.com-------- about-django.com --------

django.fr.fm ------ hotclubnews.de -------- lutherie.net

SAMY DAUSSAT'S DISCOGRAPHY AVAILABLE AT: site.voila.fr/sami.daussat/index.html



GIPSY GUITARS *"LA ROUE FLEURIE"* (H.C.R -NIGHT AND DAY 1989)
ANGELO DEBARRE AVEC PETRO IVANOVITCH *"ROMANO DROM"* H.C.R - NIGHT AND DAY 199
ANGELO DEBARRE AVEC MORENO *"ROMANO BASCHEPPEN"* (AL SUR 1998)
ANGELO DEBARRE AVEC BRATSCH *"RIEN DANS LES POCHES"* (NETWORK 1998)
"CAPRICE" (H.C.R. NIGHT AND DAY 1999)
"PORTRAIT OF ANGELO" (H.C.R. 2002)
LUDOVIC BEIER / ANGELO DEBARRE *" SWING RENCONTRE"* (2002 MARIANE MÉLODIE)
ANGELO DEBARRE AVEC OLA KVERNBERG *"ANGELO IS BACK IN TOWN"* (H.C.R. 2002)
THE ANGELO DEBARRE QUARTET *"IMPROMPTU"* (LEJAZZETAL) (2003)